

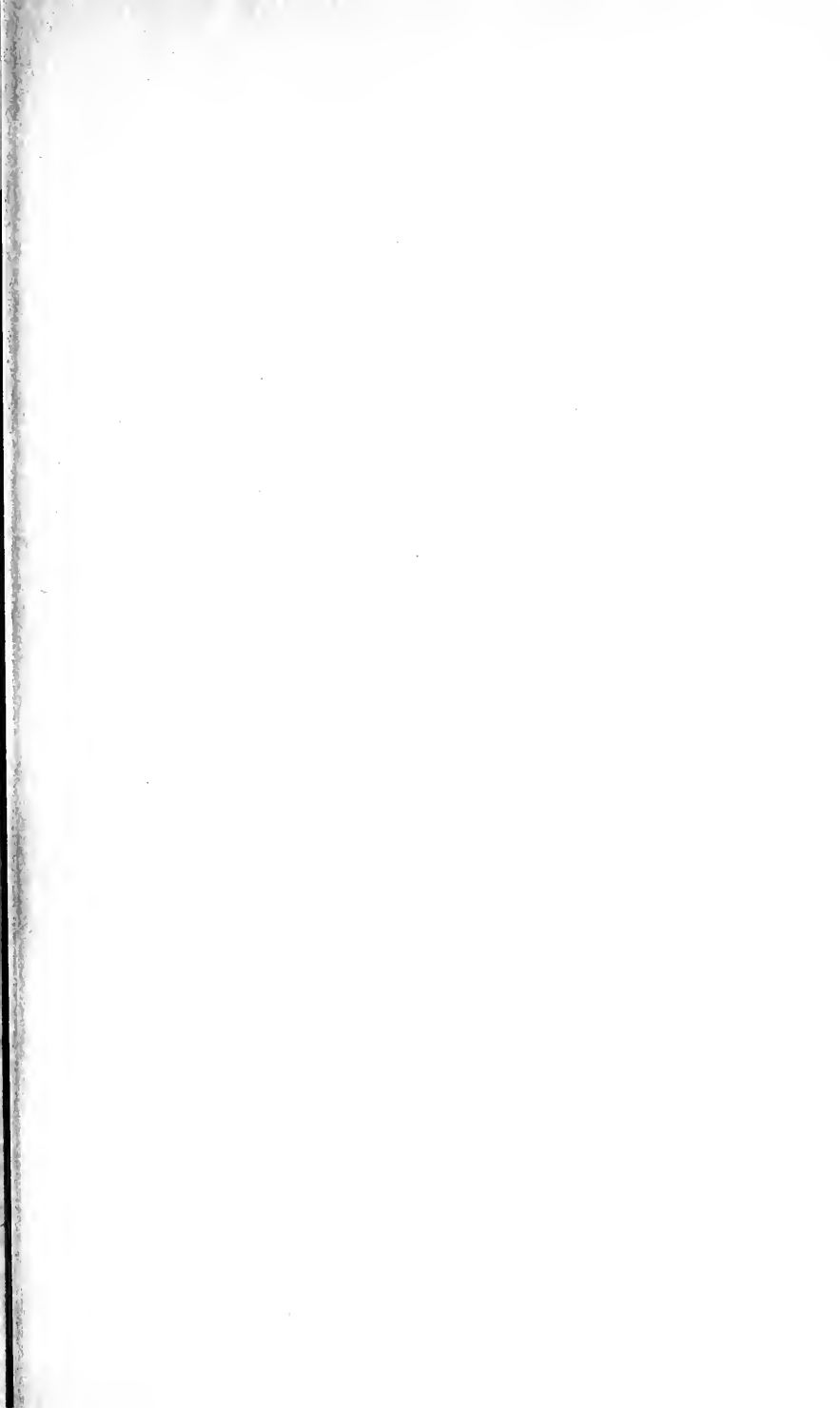
UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE



3 1761 01867677 5







Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2008 with funding from  
Microsoft Corporation

Linguaphone Conversational Courses.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

*on the*

## ITALIAN

## CONVERSATIONAL COURSE

*by*

C. E. EARL, B.A. (Lond.).



LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE

**LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE LTD.**

**207-209 Regent Street, London, W.1**

**30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York**

*and throughout the World*

## PREFACE

It has long been recognized by both teachers and students of languages that no grammar manual of the ordinary, formal kind, no matter how well arranged, is capable of affording the student all the assistance and information he requires when studying a conversational course compiled on up-to-date lines. It lies in the very nature of such a course that the student finds himself immersed, so to speak, at the very outset, in the speech of the people of the country the language of which he is studying, hearing it as spoken by them amongst themselves in their everyday life. This is one of the outstanding merits of the method embodied in the Linguaphone Conversational Courses; when listening to the Linguaphone Language Records the student hears what one might call a "ready-made" language, which he learns in the same way as he would learn it if he went to live in the country to which it belongs, that is, by hearing it spoken by natives of that country. A grammar of the ordinary kind, on the other hand, can only lead him, step by step, through the often bewildering maze of grammatical rules and forms, can feed his mind only with the dry bones of the theory of the language; it cannot present the language to him as the living entity that it is in reality. And yet some aid in gaining a knowledge of the grammatical structure of the language is necessary for the attainment of a complete mastery of it within a reasonable time. Although a man who hears a foreign language constantly spoken will in course of time learn to speak it himself, he will do so much more quickly if he has a friend at hand to help him over the grammatical difficulties and idiomatic "snags" which he will inevitably encounter, and to explain intricacies for which he would be unable to find explanations unaided.

The recognition of this necessity has led the Linguaphone Institute to provide students of its Italian Conversational Course with just such a "guide, philosopher and friend" in the shape of the present Explanatory Notes to that Course. These Notes deal in detail with the text of the Course; in them difficulties are cleared up as they arise, idioms are explained and all grammatical information necessary to the student at this stage of his work is given. Thus when the student has worked through the Course with the aid of these Notes he will not only have acquired a sound practical knowledge of the Italian language as spoken by Italian people but will also have learned enough of the grammar to facilitate greatly a more intensive study of the theoretical side of the language later on.

At the end of the book will be found an Appendix giving the conjugations of regular verbs and the forms of the personal pronouns.

The greatest possible care has been exercised in the compilation of this book, but in the event of errors being detected in it, we shall be grateful if these are pointed out to us, and any suggestions for its improvement will be welcomed and given careful consideration for future editions.

LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE.



## Lesson 1 (La Famiglia Bianchi)

**Note :** In these *Explanatory Notes* an acute accent denotes the syllable on which the stress falls. It is marked in the infinitive of all verbs and in other words where the stress does not fall on the last syllable but one (penultimate), as is the general rule. Note that the only accent used in written Italian is the *grave*.

1. **La**, "the", is the feminine singular of the definite article, agreeing with the feminine singular noun **lezione**.

There are only two genders in Italian: masculine and feminine. Nouns denoting males and females usually keep their natural gender, but those denoting inanimate objects may be either masculine or feminine. The gender of such words can often be determined by the ending.

In Italian, articles and adjectives are *variable* words, that is to say, they agree in gender and number with the nouns to which they relate. The definite article has the following forms: **Lo** (sing.), **gli** (pl.)—before a masculine noun beginning with **z** or impure **s** (i.e. **s** followed by another consonant).

**Il** (sing.), **i** (pl.)—before a masculine noun beginning with any other consonant.

**La** (sing.), **le** (pl.)—before a feminine noun beginning with a consonant. **Le** is also used before feminine plural nouns beginning with a vowel other than **e**.

**L'**—before a singular noun, masculine or feminine, beginning with a vowel and before a feminine plural noun beginning with **e**.

**Gli** (becoming **gl'** before **i**)—before a masculine plural noun beginning with a vowel.

### *Examples*

**lo zio**, the uncle

**il padre**, the father

**la madre**, the mother

**l'ora**, the hour

**l'erba**, the herb

**l'uomo**, the man

**l'Italiano**, the Italian

**gli specchi**, the mirrors

**i libri**, the books

**le lettere**, the letters

**le ore**, the hours

**l'erbe**, the herbs

**gli uomini**, the men

**gl'Italiani**, the Italians

The definite article is frequently used in Italian where it would be omitted in English. Instances of this will be noted as they occur.

2. **Prima**, "first", is feminine singular to agree with **lezione**. The masculine singular form is **primo**. A large number of adjectives in Italian end in **-o** and form their feminine by changing the **-o** to **-a**. The plural forms are **primi** (masc. **-o** becomes **-i**) and **prime** (fem. **-a** becomes **-e**).

3. **Lezione**, "lesson", is of feminine gender. Note that all Italian nouns ending in **-zione**, **-gione** or **-údine** are feminine.
4. **Famiglia**, "family". Most nouns ending in **-a** are feminine. The exceptions are chiefly words of foreign origin or scientific and geographical terms.
5. **La famiglia Bianchi**, "the Bianchi family". Note the difference between the Italian and the English word-order.
6. **Parte** (f.), "part". Nouns ending in **-e** in the singular may be either masculine or feminine. Practice alone can teach the gender of such nouns.
7. **Descrizione** and **illustrazione** are two more instances of nouns ending in **-zione**. Remember that such nouns are feminine.
8. **Rappresenta**, "represents", is the 3rd person singular, present tense, indicative mood, of the verb **rappresentáre**, "to represent".

Italian verbs are divided into three groups (conjugations) according to the termination of the infinitive. The first group comprises verbs the infinitive of which ends in **-are**; the second group consists of verbs with the infinitive in **-ere**; the third group includes all verbs with the infinitive in **-ire**. There are, in addition, a number of irregular verbs.

The personal pronouns "I", "you", etc., are indicated by different terminations added to the stem of the verb, which is found by cutting off the infinitive termination **-are**, **-ere** or **-ire**. Thus the stem of **rappresentáre** is **rappresent-**. In the present tense of this verb the 3rd person singular ("he", "she" or "it") is indicated by the addition of **-a** to the stem and the 3rd person plural ("they") is indicated by **-ano** as in **giuócano**, "(they) are playing", at the end of this lesson. (See also No. 36).

9. **Un**, "a", "an", is the masculine singular of the indefinite article, agreeing with the masculine singular noun **salotto**. Before a masculine noun beginning with **z** or impure **s** the form **uno** is used. The feminine singular is **una**, which becomes **un'** before a vowel. The indefinite article in Italian has the same forms as the cardinal numeral "one" used adjectivally: e.g. **un libro** may mean "a book" or "one book", according to the context.
- In some cases the indefinite article is omitted in Italian; instances of such omission met with in the text will be explained separately.
10. **Salotto**, "sitting-room". With the exception of **mano**, "hand", and **radio**, all nouns ending in **-o** are masculine. This does not apply to names of persons or towns.
11. **Nel**, "in the", is a contraction of the preposition **in** with the masculine definite article **il**.

When the definite article is preceded by one of the prepositions **di** (of), **da** (from, by), **a** (to, at), **in** (in), **con** (with), **su** (on), **per** (for, through), the article and preposition are usually contracted into one word, as shown in the following table. Note, however, that **con** and **per** are not contracted with the article so frequently as the other prepositions.

	il	i	lo	gli	la	le	l'
<b>di</b>	<b>del</b>	<b>dei*</b>	<b>dello</b>	<b>degli</b>	<b>della</b>	<b>delle</b>	<b>dell'</b>
<b>da</b>	<b>dai</b>	<b>dai*</b>	<b>dallo</b>	<b>dagli</b>	<b>dalla</b>	<b>dalle</b>	<b>dall'</b>
<b>a</b>	<b>al</b>	<b>ai*</b>	<b>allo</b>	<b>agli</b>	<b>alla</b>	<b>alle</b>	<b>all'</b>
<b>in</b>	<b>nel</b>	<b>nei*</b>	<b>nello</b>	<b>negli</b>	<b>nella</b>	<b>nelle</b>	<b>nell'</b>
<b>con</b>	<b>col</b>	<b>coi*</b>	<b>collo</b>	<b>cogli</b>	<b>colla</b>	<b>colle</b>	<b>coll'</b>
<b>su</b>	<b>sul</b>	<b>sui*</b>	<b>sullo</b>	<b>sugli</b>	<b>sulla</b>	<b>sulle</b>	<b>sull'</b>
<b>per</b>	<b>pel</b>	<b>pei*</b>	<b>per lo</b>	<b>per gli</b>	<b>per la</b>	<b>per le</b>	<b>per l'</b>

12. **Vi**, "there", here a pronominal adverb of place, may also be written **v'** before a vowel. **Ci** (c') has the same meaning and is used in the same way. These adverbs cannot function apart from a verb. The English phrases "there is", "there are", etc., are translated **ci è**, **vi è**; **ci sono**, **vi sono**, etc. (See also Lesson 2, No. 26).
13. **È**, "is", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the auxiliary verb **essere**, "to be".
14. **Sono**, "are", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the verb **essere**. Note that this verb is quite irregular.
15. **E**, "and". Do not confuse this conjunction with the word **è** (see No. 13 above) in which the **è** is accented. In Italian this accent is often used to distinguish two words with the same spelling.
16. **Seduto**, "seated", is the past participle of the irregular verb **sedere**, "to sit". When the past participle is used adjectivally, as **heré**, it agrees with the noun to which it relates (in this instance **il nonno**), both in gender and number (cf. **la nonna è seduta** below). In rendering such sentences into English we should, as a rule, use the present participle "sitting" rather than the past participle (see Lesson 18, No. 11), but in Italian the present participle cannot be used in this way with **essere**.
17. **Sulla**, "on the". (See table at end of No. 11).

---

\* The final **-i** is sometimes omitted and replaced by an apostrophe, either for the sake of euphony or to preserve the correct metre in poetry, thus making **de'**, **da'**, **a'**, **ne'**, **co'**, **su'** and **pe'**.

18. **Fuma**, "smokes". "is smoking", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the verb **fumare**, "to smoke". Note that the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of verbs belonging to the first conjugation always ends in **-a**: e.g. **rappresenta, canta, giuoca**, etc., in this lesson.
- The Italian present tense is the equivalent of the English "progressive" tense as well as of the ordinary simple tense. There is a separate "progressive" tense in Italian, but it is more limited in its uses than the English (see No. 43).
19. **Fuma la pipa**, "is smoking his (lit. the) pipe". In Italian, the possessive adjective, when not necessary for clearness, is usually replaced by the definite article. This generally happens when the person represented by the possessive is also the subject of the sentence: "*he* is smoking *his* pipe".
20. **Che**, "who" or "which", is a relative pronoun and invariable. (See Lesson 5, No. 2).
21. **Legge**, "reads", "is reading", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **leggere**, "to read". In these 2nd conjugation verbs (see No. 8) the termination indicating the 3rd person singular, present indicative, is always **-e** (cf. **scrive** below).
22. **Il signor Bianchi**, "Mr. Bianchi". It should be noted that when speaking of a person by name the title is preceded by the definite article, but that when speaking directly to him, the article should be omitted. **Questo è il suo posto, signor Bianchi**, "this is your place, Mr. Bianchi". **Signor** is the shortened form of **signore** and is always used when the name *immediately* follows the title.
23. **Scrive**, "writes", "is writing", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **scrivere**, "to write".
24. **La signora Bianchi**, "Mrs. Bianchi". Here is another instance of a title being preceded by the definite article. **Signora** is the feminine form of **signore**, but unlike the latter it cannot be abbreviated.
25. **Al**, "at the" (see table at end of No. 11). *Make a note* of the examples of contraction found in this lesson.
26. **Giuoca**, "is playing". **Gi(u)ocare** and other verbs similarly spelt are frequently written without the **u**, provided it does not occur in an accented syllable.
27. **Ed**, "and". This form is only used before a vowel or silent **h**. There is no rule, however, that it *must* be used before a vowel, although the alternative form **e** must always be used before a consonant. Cf. **o** or **od** for "or" (e.g. **od** for **o** in lesson 3, Part 1).

28. **Uomini**, "men", is the irregular plural of **uomo**.
29. **Donne**, "women". The singular is **donna**. Nouns of feminine gender ending in **-a** form their plural by changing the **-a** to **-e**. (See **persone** in the second part of this lesson).
30. **Moglie**, "wife", has an irregular plural **mogli**. As a rule, nouns ending in **-ie** are invariable: **una specie**, "one kind"; **tre specie**, "three kinds".
31. **Della fanciulla e della bambina**, "of the girl and (of) the baby". If a preposition governs several nouns, it is usual, in Italian, to repeat it before each one.
32. **Ragazzi**, "children", is the plural of the masculine noun **ragazzo**, and may also mean "boys and girls" in a collective sense. Nouns ending in **-o** form their plural by changing the **-o** to **-i**. The singular **ragazzo** can mean "boy" or "child". The feminine equivalent is **ragazza**, the plural of which, **ragazze**, is used when girls only are referred to.
33. **Genitori**, "parents". In the singular, **genitore**, this word means "father", the feminine equivalent being **genitrice**, "mother", but these words are seldom used in the literal sense. Nouns ending in **-e** (not **-ie**: see note to **moglie** above), whether masculine or feminine, form their plural by changing the **-e** to **-i**. Note: There is an Italian word **parenti** (sing. **parente**), but it means "relatives", never "parents".
34. **Avi** is the plural of the masculine singular noun **avo**. It means not only "grandparents" but also "forefathers", "ancestors" (another word for which is **antenati**). The usual word for "grandparents" is **nonni**, but **avi** has been substituted to avoid an awkward sentence.

### Conversation.

35. **Che cosa**, "what", lit. "what thing". This expression is often abbreviated to **che** or, in colloquial speech, to **cosa**. All three forms are used in this lesson. Note the difference between the word-order of this sentence and the English equivalent. There is no auxiliary corresponding to the English "do" or "does", so the sentence "what does the picture represent?" must be altered to "what represents the picture?" before being translated into Italian. Cf. "what does the father read?" = "what reads the father?" = **che cosa legge il padre?**
36. **Essa**, "it", is the feminine personal pronoun referring to the feminine singular noun **figura**. As has already been stated, there is no neuter gender in Italian, so "it" must be rendered by a masculine or feminine pronoun, according to whether the noun to which it refers is masculine or feminine.
37. **Chi**, "who", is an interrogative pronoun (invariable) and

should not be confused with the relative **che**. Compare the following sentences: **Chi è quel signore?**, "who is that gentleman?" (Here, "who" is an *interrogative* pronoun). **Il nonno, che è seduto in una poltrona, fuma la pipa**, "the grandfather, who is sitting in an armchair, is smoking his pipe". (Here, "who" is a *relative* pronoun).

38. **Persone**, "persons", "people", is the plural of **persona**. This word is always feminine, even when it refers to members of the male sex. Other nouns like it are **creatura**, "creature"; **guida**, "guide"; **sentinella**, "sentinel"; **spia**, "spy"; **staffetta**, "courier" and **vedetta**, "scout".

39. **Queste**, "these", is a demonstrative adjective and is feminine plural because it qualifies **persone**. The other forms of this adjective are:

**questo** (masc. sing.): **questo salotto**, "this sitting-room"

**questi** (masc. pl.): **questi libri**, "these books"

**questa** (fem. sing.): **questa ragazza**, "this girl"

**quest'** (before a singular noun beginning with a vowel):

**quest'uomo**, "this man".

40. **Fa**, "is doing", "does", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **fare**, "to do" or "to make". It is never an auxiliary verb as the English "to do" often is. The literal translation of this sentence is "what does the grandfather?"

41. **Egli**, "he", is the masculine personal pronoun referring to the masculine singular noun **nonno**. An alternative to **egli** is **esso**, but in conversation these two are often replaced by **lui**. **Esso** may refer to either persons or things ("he", "it") but **egli** and **lui** only to persons.

42. **Dove è seduto?**, "where is he sitting?" As an Italian verb denotes by its ending the person and number of its subject, the personal pronoun (here **egli**) is generally omitted. When expressed, it is usually for the sake of clearness, emphasis or euphony, as in the following examples:—

**Io leggo, egli fuma**, "I am reading, he is smoking". (Emphasis).

**Egli non canta**, "he is not singing". If the pronoun had been omitted in this latter sentence, the meaning might have been "she is not singing" or "you (polite form) are not singing". The context, of course, will usually give the clue to the correct meaning.

Note that the final vowel of **dove** may be dropped before **è** as in the next question: **Dov'è seduta...?** Compare the English forms: "Where is...?" and "where's...?"

43. **Sta**, lit. "stays", "stands", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **stare**, "to stay". This verb is combined with a present participle to form the equivalent

of the English "progressive" tense. **Facendo**, "doing", is the present participle of **fare**, and **sta facendo?** means "is she (the pronoun **essa** being understood) doing?" There can be no ambiguity because no other person has been mentioned since the reference to the grandmother in the preceding question.

This Italian "progressive" form is more limited in its uses than the English. It can only refer to events actually in progress at the time of speaking and has no sense of futurity. "I am going to Rome next week" must either be translated **andrò a Roma la settimana prossima**, where **andrò** (lit. "I shall go") is the 1st person singular, future tense, of the verb **andare**, "to go", or **vado a Roma . . .**, using the simple present tense "I go . . ." The latter tense generally denotes that the action will take place in a *near* future.

44. **Legge**, "she is reading". Here the pronoun understood is again **essa**, referring back to the feminine noun **nonna**. Note that an equally correct reply would have been **sta leggendo**.
45. **Scrivendo**, "writing", is the present participle of the verb **scrivere**. Present participles are invariable, and are formed from the infinitive, as follows:—

1st conjugation : Substitute **-ando** for the termination **-are**.

2nd conjugation :       "       **-endo**       "       "       "       **-ere**.

3rd conjugation :       "       **-endo**       "       "       "       **-ire**.

Examples:—

**Maria sta cantando**, Mary is singing.

**La madre sta leggendo**, The mother is reading.

**Essa sta cucendo**, She is sewing (**cucire**, to sew).

Where in English the present participle is used adjectivally it is translated, not by the form given above, but by a verbal adjective, which can be formed by changing the infinitive ending into **-ante** for the 1st conjugation and into **-ente** for the 2nd and 3rd. This adjective can also be used as a noun.

Examples:—

**Acqua bollente**, boiling water

**Venditori ambulanti**, pedlars (lit. "walking sellers")

**Un amante**, a lover

46. **Altre**, "other", is feminine plural to agree with **persone**.
47. **Figli**, "sons", "children", is the plural of **figlio**. Nouns in unaccented **-io** form their plural by changing the **-io** to **-i**. Cf. **zio**, "uncle", the plural of which is **zii**, because the **i** is accented.
48. **Fanno?**, "are they doing?", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of **fare**.
49. **Suona**, "is playing", is the 3rd person singular, present indi-

cative, of the verb **suonáre**, "to sound" or "to play (a musical instrument)".

The verb **giuocáre** can never be used as an alternative to **suonáre** when it is a question of playing a musical instrument.

50. **Giúócano**, "are playing". Remember that, just as **-a** is the sign of the 3rd person *singular*, present tense, of 1st conjugation verbs, so **-ano** is the sign of the 3rd person *plural*. This termination never bears the stress, which comes on the syllable preceding it.
51. **Uno**, "one". Where, in Italian, there are similar forms for adjectives and pronouns, the adjectives can be abbreviated in accordance with specified rules, but the pronouns always maintain their full forms. **Uno**, for instance, could not be shortened to **un** here.
52. **Con la**, "with the". Here we have the uncontracted form instead of **colla** which, grammatically speaking, would be equally correct. It has already been noted, however, that **con** is not contracted with the definite article so frequently as other prepositions.
53. **Grande**, "great". Adjectives in **-e** have the same forms for masculine and feminine: e.g. **un ragazzo felice**, "a happy boy"; **una ragazza felice**, "a happy girl"; **uómini felici**, "happy men"; **donne felici**, "happy women". The masculine singular of **grande**, however, is irregular, as follows:  
Before **z** or impure **s**: **grande—un grande specchio**, "a large mirror"  
Before any other consonant: **gran—un gran libro**, "a big book"  
Before a vowel: **grand'—un grand'armadio**, "a large wardrobe"  
These are the rules, which foreign students should be careful to follow, but in reading Italian authors they will notice that **gran** is often used in the feminine singular (for **grande**) and even in the plural (for **grandi**), and that **grande** is also sometimes found where **gran** would be grammatically correct.
54. **Vi è una grande pace**, "it is very peaceful", lit. "there is a great peace". The indefinite article **una** has been added because the abstract noun **pace** is qualified by the adjective **grande**.
55. **Molta**, "much", is the feminine singular of the adjective **molto**, which is declined regularly: e.g. **molto pane**, "much bread"; **molti libri**, "many books"; **molte canzoni**, "many songs". (See also lesson 5, No. 25).



## Irregular verbs found in Lesson 1.

**Essere**, "to be".

*Past Participle* : stato

*Pres. Indic.* : sono, sei, è, siamo, siete, sono

*Pres. Subj.* : sia, sia, sia, siamo, siate, siano

*Imp. Indic.* : ero, eri, era, eravamo, eravate, erano

*Imp. Subj.* : fossi, fossi, fosse, fóssimo, foste, fóssero

*Past Def.* : fui, fosti, fu, fummo, foste, fúrono

*Future* : sarò, sarái, sarà, saremo, sarete, saranno

*Conditional* : saréi, saresti, starebbe, saremmo, sareste, sarébbbero

*Imperative* : (tu form) sii, siate

**Fare**, "to do", "to make".

*Present Participle* : facendo

*Past Participle* : fatto

*Pres. Indic.* : faccio, fai, fa, facciamo, fate, fanno

*Pres. Subj.* : faccia, faccia, faccia, facciamo, facciate, facciano

*Imp. Indic.* : facevo, facevi, faceva, facevamo, facevate, facevano

*Imp. Subj.* : facessi, facessi, facesse, facéssimo, faceste, facéssero

*Past Def.* : feci, facesti, fece, facemmo, faceste, fécono

*Future* : farò, farái, farà, faremo, farete, faranno

*Conditional* : faréi, faresti, farebbe, faremmo, fareste, farébbbero

**Leggere**, "to read".

*Past Participle* : letto

*Past Def.* : lessi, leggesti, lesse, leggemma, leggeste, léssero

**Scrivere**, "to write".

*Past Participle* : scritto

*Past Def.* : scrissi, scrivesti, scrisse, scrivemmo, scriveste, scrissero

**Sedere**, "to sit down".

*Pres. Indic.* : siedo or seggo, siedi, siede, sediamo, sedete, siédono or séggono

*Pres. Subj.* : sieda or segga, sieda or segga, sieda or segga, sediamo, sediate, siédano or séggano

*Past Def.* : sedéi or sedetti, sedesti, sedè or sedette, sedemmo, sedeste, sedérono or sedéttero

**Stare**, "to stay".

*Pres. Indic.* : sto, stai, sta, stiamo, state, stanno

*Pres. Subj.* : stia, stia, stia, stiamo, stiate, stiano

*Imp. Subj.* : stessi, stessi, stesse, stéssimo, steste, stéssero

*Past Def.* : stetti, stesti, stette, stemmo, steste, stéttero

*Future* : starò, starái, starà, staremo, starete, staranno

*Conditional* : staréi, staresti, starebbe, staremmo, stareste, starébbbero.

*Note* : As a general rule, only the *irregular* forms of the verbs are given in the lists at the end of each lesson. For the regular forms of Italian verbs, see Appendix

## Lesson 2 (Una Visita)

1. **Éccoci**, "here we are", is a combination of the interjection **ecco** ("here is", "here are", "there is", "there are", in which "here" and "there" are quite indefinite) and **ci** ("us", "to us"). **Ecco** forms one word with the pronoun accompanying it: e.g. **éccomi**, "here I am"; **éccoli**, "here they are". The form of pronoun joined to **ecco** is that used as *direct object* of a verb (see Appendix, Personal Pronouns: Conjunctive). Note that the stress does not change when a word is lengthened by the addition of a pronoun or adverb. Cf. **andáre**, "to go"; **andáarvi** (Lesson 8, end of Part 2), "to go there".
2. **Di nuovo**, "again", is an adverbial phrase made up of the preposition **di** (of) and the adjective **nuovo** (new). Cf. English "anew".
3. **Entrano quattro visitatori**, "four visitors enter". Note the difference between the Italian and the English word-order. The relative clause (**che véngono... Bianchi**) must come directly after its antecedent, which means that the principal verb can only go at the very beginning or right at the end of the sentence, and to put the verb at the end of a sentence would be to give it too weak a position in Italian.
4. **Véngono**, "come", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the irregular verb **venire**, "to come". When an infinitive is dependent upon a verb of motion the latter must be followed by the preposition **a**, as here: **véngono A passáre**.
5. **Ha**, "has", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the auxiliary verb **avére**, "to have". This verb is used with a past participle to form compound tenses. Here we have an example of the perfect tense: **ha aperto**, "has opened".
6. **Aperto**, "opened", is the past participle of the irregular verb **aprire**, "to open".
7. **Fa entráre... nel salotto**, "admits (lets)...into the sitting-room", lit. "makes to enter...into the sitting-room". Note this construction, which is in very frequent use in Italian. (See Lesson 10; No. 19). The noun or pronoun governed by the verb **entráre** must be preceded by the preposition **in**, here combined with **il** to form **nel**. It would be impossible to render "he enters the sitting-room" by **entra il salotto**; it must be **entra nel salotto**.
8. **Essi**, "they", masculine plural personal pronoun. An alternative, frequently heard in conversation, is **loro**, which is also an alternative to the feminine plural **esse**. The old forms **églino** (masc.) and **élleno** (fem.) are rarely used in modern Italian.

9. **Signore** is not immediately followed by the name **Picozzi**, so we have the full form (see No. 22, Lesson 1). Cf. **il signor Picozzi** below.
10. **Il loro figlio**, "their son"; **la loro figlia**, "their daughter". **Loro** is invariable. The possessive adjective is usually preceded by the definite article. In **suo marito** below (No. 12) we have an instance of one of the chief exceptions to this rule.
11. **La sorella del signor Bianchi**, "Mr. Bianchi's sister". Italian has no possessive case. To express possession the preposition **di** is used and, if there are several dependent nouns, the preposition is generally repeated before each one, as in the next sentence: **la zia di Giovanni, di Maria, e della bambina**.
12. **Suo marito**, "her husband". No article is used when the possessive adjective precedes a noun denoting relationship, provided
- (a) that the noun is in the singular,
  - (b) that it is not accompanied by another adjective,
  - (c) that it is not modified by a suffix or
  - (d) that the possessive adjective is not **loro**.

Examples:—

<b>mia madre,</b>	my mother
but <b>le mie sorelle,</b>	my sisters
<b>la vostra cara nipote,</b>	your dear niece
<b>la sua cuginetta,</b>	his little cousin
<b>il loro figlio,</b>	their son

Note that, in Italian, the possessive adjective agrees in gender and number with the person or thing possessed and not with the possessor. Thus **suo** is masculine singular to agree with **marito**. **Suo** (masc. sing.), **suoi** (masc. pl.), **sua** (fem. sing.) and **sue** (fem. pl.), with or without the definite article, may mean "his", "her" or "its", according to the context: e.g. **Giovanni giuoca con la sua palla**, "John is playing with *his* ball"; **Maria legge il suo libro**, "Mary is reading *her* book"; **la signora Bianchi ama i suoi figli**, "Mrs. Bianchi loves *her* children".

13. **Nipote** has four meanings. As a masculine noun it may mean "nephew" or "grandson"; as a feminine noun it signifies "niece" or "granddaughter". If the distinction is not clear from the context, one must use one of the cumbersome phrases: **il figlio del fratello** or **il figlio della sorella** for "nephew"; **il figlio del figlio** or **il figlio della figlia** for "grandson"; **la figlia del fratello** or **la figlia della sorella** for "niece" and **la figlia del figlio** or **la figlia della figlia** for "granddaughter".
14. **Dei signori Bianchi**, "of Mr. and Mrs. Bianchi". Here we have the masculine plural (**signori**) to denote two people of opposite sex (see also No. 29, Lesson 5).
15. **Salutano**, "greet", "welcome", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the verb **salutare**. This verb conveys the

idea of almost any form of greeting or acknowledgment, such as bowing, nodding, shaking hands, saluting, presenting arms, and so on.

16. **Stringe**, "presses", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **stringere**, "to draw close", "to press", "to constrain".
17. **Mano**, "hand". Remember that this word is an exception to the rule that nouns ending in **-o** are masculine.
18. **Tiene**, "is holding", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **tenere**, "to hold", "to keep". As already stated, the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of 2nd conjugation verbs always ends in **-e** (cf. **legge**, **scrive**, **stringe**, etc.).  
Note the idiomatic expression **tenere per mano**, "to hold the hand of . . .", "to hold . . . by the hand".
19. **Dice**, "says", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **dire**, "to say", "to tell".
20. **Buon**, "good". When preceding a noun this adjective has forms similar to the indefinite article, **buon**, **buono**, **buona** and **buon'** being used in the same way as **un**, **uno**, **una** and **un'**.
21. **Buon giorno**, "good day", also expresses "good morning" or "good afternoon".
22. **Cuginetta**, "little cousin", is made up of **cugina** and the suffix **-etta**, which denotes smallness. The addition of a suffix to a noun, adjective or adverb makes it possible to express many shades of meaning in Italian. Various examples of such suffixes occur in the text and will be dealt with separately. Note that a word loses its final vowel before a suffix.
23. **Contenti di essere**, "pleased to be"; **felice di essere**, "glad to be". An infinitive depending upon an adjective is usually preceded by the preposition **di** or **a**. With certain adjectives such as **facile** (easy), **difficile** (difficult), **utile** (useful), **importante** (important), etc., no preposition is needed: e.g. **è difficile sentirlo**, "it is difficult to hear him".

### Conversation.

24. **Si**, "yes", is written with an accent to distinguish it from the indefinite pronoun **si**, "one", "people".
25. **Padrona di casa**, "mistress of the house" (masc. **padrone di casa**, "master of the house"). The phrase **di casa** is purely adjectival; the emphasis is on "mistress", not on "house". The definite article before **casa** is therefore omitted. Contrast with **il proprietario DEL ristorante della stazione** (Lesson 26), in which the reference is to a particular restaurant (i.e. the *station-restaurant*) and therefore the definite article is used.

The words **padrone** and **padrona** mean "master" and "mistress" in the sense of "owner". Where, however, the meaning is "teacher", **maestro** and **maestra** must be used.

26. **Vi sono?**, "are there?" In this and similar phrases with **vi** and **ci** the word-order is always the same, whether the words are used affirmatively or interrogatively. One cannot say **sono vi?** Only by the intonation is it possible to tell when the phrase is a question and when a statement of fact.

27. **Contiamo**, "let us count", is the 1st person plural, imperative mood, of the verb **contare**, "to count". It has the same form as the 1st person plural of the present tense.

The termination **-iamo** for the 1st person plural of the present tense or imperative is the same for every conjugation: e.g. **fum/are**, "to smoke", **fum/iamo**, "we smoke"; **legg/ere**, "to read", **legg/iamo**, "we read"; **prefer/ire**, "to prefer", **prefer/iamo**, "we prefer".

28. **Una**, "one", is feminine because it relates to **persone** in the previous question, but in ordinary counting, without reference to any particular person or thing, **uno** is used.

29. **Ve ne sono undici**, "there are eleven (of them)". This is an important construction and should be carefully noted. The pronoun **ne** means "of it", "of them" and also "some", "any" when the meaning is "some of it", "some of them", "any of it" or "any of them". It is often used pleonastically and need not always be translated into English. It should never be omitted when a numeral adjective or similar word stands after the verb without a noun. Its use can best be seen from the following examples: **ne parlano**, "they speak of it"; **ne ha**, "he has some"; **non ne ha**, "he hasn't any"; **ne ha due**, "he has two". Look out for further examples of **ne** in later lessons. It usually precedes the verb, but the rules are the same as for direct object pronouns (Lesson 5, No. 27). Cf. the similar French word **en**.

**Vi** and **ci** become **ve** and **ce** respectively before **ne** and certain other pronouns which will be indicated later. (See Lesson 6, No. 36).

30. **È in piedi**, "he is standing". Note the use of the plural in the expression **in piedi**. Cf. **a piedi** (Lesson 8, No. 37), "on foot", where the plural is also used.

31. **Ed il nonno si è alzato?** "and has the grandfather got up?" Compare the Italian and the English word-order. A question can be expressed in various ways in Italian:

(a) As in this sentence, by keeping the same order as in the affirmative and simply putting a question mark at the end. When the sentence is spoken the difference is heard in the intonation. To grasp this difference of intonation the student must listen carefully to the record until he is able to recognize

that a question is intended, without having to look at his book. A similar effect can be obtained in English in sentences like "You saw him yesterday?" spoken with rising intonation.

(b) By interrogative pronouns such as **chi?** and **che cosa?**

(c) If the subject is a pronoun, by placing it after the verb: e.g. **legge egli?**, "is he reading?"

(d) If the subject is a noun, it is often put at the end of the sentence. It may follow the verb immediately, but this order is not so usual: e.g. "Does Mary read many books?", **legge molti libri Maria?** or **legge Maria molti libri?**

**Si è alzato** is the 3rd person singular, perfect tense, indicative mood, of the reflexive verb **alzarsi**, "to get up" (see No. 30, Lesson 3). Reflexive verbs are always conjugated with **essere**, not **avere**. "He has opened" is **ha aperto**, but "he has got up" is **si è alzato**, as above.

32. **Dalla sua poltrona**, "from his armchair". "From" is usually rendered by **da**, but before adverbs and sometimes after verbs of departing **di** is used: e.g. **abita lontano di qui**, "he lives far from here"; **usciamo di casa**, "we are leaving (going from) the house".

33. **Anch'egli**, "he too". **Anche** could follow the verb (here **è**), but as the emphasis is on **egli** it precedes the latter (cf. **anche la nonna** at the end of Part 1). **Anche** generally loses its final vowel before a word beginning with **e** or **i**. The same remark applies to **che**, **dove** and **neppure** ("not even").

34. **Stanno facendo?**, "are (they) doing?" **Stanno** is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the verb **stare**. This is another instance of the "progressive" tense. Note that it is impossible to separate the present participle from its verb as can be done in English. One cannot say **Che stanno i figli facendo?** The student should study this part of the lesson thoroughly in order to know how to construct a good Italian sentence.

35. **Come stai?**, "how are you?" The verb **stare** is used in phrases of this kind (i.e. dealing with health) instead of **essere**. **Stai** is the 2nd person singular of the present tense. This form, one of the so-called "familiar" forms, is used for "you" when addressing intimate friends, near relatives, or children, and also as a translation of "thou". The pronoun understood is **tu**.

36. **Rivedere**, "to see again". The prefix **ri** is equivalent to the English prefix **re** and to the adverbs "back" and "again". Cf. **ritornare**, "to return"; **ristabilire**, "to re-establish"; **rimandare**, "to send back (or again)".

37. **Tutta la famiglia**, "all the family"; "the whole family". The definite article must always follow the adjective **tutto**, whatever the position of the corresponding word in English.

38. **Contentíssimi**, "very pleased", is made up of the adjective **content(o)** with the addition of the suffix **-íssimi**, which is masculine plural to agree with **nonni**. The termination **-íssimo** is one of the commonest suffixes in Italian and is usually added only to adjectives and adverbs to form what is known as the "absolute" superlative: e.g. **grandíssimo**, "very big"; **beníssimo**, "very well".
39. **Figli miéi**, "(my) children". In such forms of address the possessive adjective usually follows the noun in Italian and the definite article is omitted. Note that in constructions of this kind the possessive would usually be omitted in English. When speaking of people, that is, not directly addressing them, the noun follows the possessive, which may be preceded by the definite article: e.g. **i miéi figli véngono**, "my children are coming".
40. **Sono**, "I am", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of **éssere**. It has the same form as the 3rd person plural, but ambiguity can be avoided by the use of the corresponding pronouns, wherever necessary.
41. **Vedérvi**, "to see you", is a combination of the infinitive **vedére** "to see", and the object pronoun of the "familiar" form, (plural) **vi**. A pronoun governed by an infinitive is always joined to it to form one word and the infinitive loses its final **-e**. Where the infinitive ends in **-rre**, the final **-re** is dropped: **condúrre**, "to lead", "to take (a person)"; **condúrlo**, "to take him".

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 2.

**Apríre**, "to open".

*Past Participle* : **aperto**

**Avére**, "to have".

*Pres. Indic.* : **ho, hai, ha, abbiamo, avete, hanno**

*Pres. Subj.* : **abbia, abbia, abbia, abbiamo, abbiate, abbiano**

*Past Def.* : **ebbi, avesti, ebbe, avemmo, aveste, ebbero**

*Future* : **avrò, avrái, avrà, avremo, avrete, avranno**

*Conditional* : **avréi, avresti, avrebbe, avremmo, avreste, avrébbero**

*Imperative* : (tu form) **abbi, abbiate**

**Díre**, "to say", "to tell".

*Present Participle* : **dicendo**

*Past Participle* : **detto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **dico, dici, dice, diciamo, dite, dicono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **dica, dica, dica, diciamo, diciate, dicano**

*Imp. Indic.* : **dicevo, dicevi, diceva, dicevamo, dicevate, dicevano**

*Imp. Subj.* : **dicessi, dicessi, dicesse, dicéssimo, diceste, dicéssero**

*Past Def.* : **dissi, dicesti, disse, dicemmo, diceste, díssero**

*Imperative* : (tu form) **di', dite**

**Rispondere**, " to reply ".

*Past Participle* : **risposto**

*Past Def.* : **risposi, rispondesti, rispose, rispondemmo, rispondeste, rispósero**

**Rivedére**, " to see again ".

Like **vedére** below.

**Sorrídere**, " to smile ".

*Past Participle* : **sorriso**

*Past Def.* : **sorrisi, sorridesti, sorrise, sorridemmo, sorrideste, sorrísero**

**Stringere**, " to press ", etc.

*Past Participle* : **stretto**

*Past Def.* : **strinsi, stringesti, strinse, stringemmo, stringeste, strínsero**

**Tenére**, " to hold ".

*Pres. Indic.* : **tengo, tieni, tiene, teniamo, tenete, téngono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **tenga, tenga, tenga, teniamo, teniate, téngano**

*Past Def.* : **tenni, tenesti, tenne, tenemmo, teneste, ténnero**

*Future* : **terrò, terrái, terrà, terremo, terrete, terranno**

*Conditional* : **terréi, terresti, terrebbe, terremmo, terreste, terrébbéro**

**Vedére**, " to see ".

*Past Participle* : **veduto or visto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **vedo or veggo or veggio, vedi, vede, vediamo or veggiamo, vedete, védono or véggono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **veda or vegga, veda or vegga, veda or vegga, vediamo or veggiamo, vediate or veggiate, védano or véggano**

*Past Def.* : **vidi, vedesti, vide, vedemmo, vedeste, videro**

*Future* : **vedrò, vedrái, vedrà, vedremo, vedrete, vedranno**

*Conditional* : **vedréi, vedresti, vedrebbe, vedremmo, vedreste, vedrébbéro**

**Veníre**, " to come ".

*Past Participle* : **venuto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **vengo, vieni, viene, veniamo, venite, véngono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **venga, venga, venga, veniamo, veniate, véngano,**

*Past Def.* : **venni, venisti, venne, venimmo, veniste, vénnero**

*Future* : **verrò, verrái, verrà, verremo, verrete, verranno**

*Conditional* : **verréi, verresti, verrebbe, verremmo, verreste, verrébbéro**



### Lesson 3 (I Fanciulli)

1. **Stanza dei fanciulli**, "nursery", lit. "children's room".
2. **Ve ne sono quattro**, "there are four of them". **Ne** refers to **fanciulli**. (See also Lesson 2, No. 29).
3. **Quantità**, "quantity". Words accented on the final vowel are marked with a *grave* accent and remain unchanged in the plural. No written accent is used on other words unless it is necessary to avoid ambiguity, as in *è* (Lesson 1, No. 15).
4. **Lei vede**, "you see". For greater politeness Italians generally use the third person when addressing an equal or superior. The feminine pronoun **lei** or **ella** (pl. **loro**) is then employed, whatever the sex of the person addressed. If, however, the person represented by the pronoun belongs to the male sex, any adjectives or past participles qualifying it will be masculine.  
**Lei** is used more than the more formal **ella**. These pronouns are sometimes written with a capital letter, but this is quite optional, although it is useful at times in order to distinguish "you" from "she".
5. **La maggiore**, "the eldest", is the feminine superlative of **grande**. **Grande** has an irregular as well as regular comparison, viz.—comparative, **più grande** or **maggiore**; superlative, **il più grande** or **il maggiore**. **Più grande** usually means "larger" and **maggiore** "older".  
 Italian does not form the comparative and superlative by means of suffixes equivalent to the English *-er* and *-est*, but by the use of **più**, "more", and **il più**, "most", preceding the adjective: e.g. **lungo**, "long"; **più lungo**, "longer"; **il più lungo**, "the longest". In the superlative the article is, of course, variable: e.g. **questa via è la più lunga**, "this road is the longest"; **questi guanti sono i più cari**, "these gloves are the dearest". (See also Lesson 8, No. 2).
6. **Dà**, "is giving", has an accent only to distinguish it from the preposition **da**.
7. **Del latte**, "some milk". The word "some" or "any" before a noun is often rendered in Italian by the preposition **di** combined with the definite article. This combination is called the partitive article: e.g. **Maria ha dell'acqua**, "Mary has some water"; **ho del pane**, "I have some bread"; **hanno delle bambole**, "they have some dolls"; **avete dei pomi?** "have you any apples?"  
 The partitive article is sometimes omitted in Italian, but not so frequently as its English equivalent "some".
8. **Dà del latte al gatto**, "is giving the cat some milk", lit. "is

giving some milk to the cat". The direct object when a noun, as here (**del latte**), should precede the indirect (**al gatto**). The preposition **a**, "to", can never be omitted in the Italian.

9. **Fra le braccia**, "in her arms". When speaking of parts of the body, the possessive is replaced by the definite article, unless its use is absolutely necessary for the sake of clearness. **Braccia** is the irregular feminine plural of the masculine noun **braccio**. There is also a regular plural **bracci**, which is used figuratively: e.g. **bracci di mare**, "arms of the sea".
10. **Margherita ha dieci anni**, "Margaret is ten years old", lit. "Margaret has ten years". This form of expression with the verb **avere** is the usual way of stating age. Note that the word **anni** can never be omitted in Italian; one cannot say, for instance, "she is ten".
11. **Carlo ne ha nove**, "Charles is nine", lit. "Charles has nine of them" (that is, "years"). (Cf. Lesson 2, No. 29).
12. **Ha un anno più di . . .**, "is a year older than . . ." **Di**, or one of its combinations with the definite article, is generally used to express "than", if it comes before a *noun, pronoun or numeral*: e.g. **lei è più ricca del signor Bianchi**, "you are richer than Mr. Bianchi"; **essi sono migliori di me**, "they are better than I"; **meno di sei**, "less than six". In other cases "than" is usually **che**: e.g. **il salotto è più lungo che largo**, "the sitting-room is longer than (it is) wide".
13. **Questi**, "the latter", and **quegli**, "the former", are invariable pronouns referring only to male persons and can only be used as the *subject* of a sentence; otherwise the forms used must be **quello . . . questo** (the former . . . the latter), which are inflected to agree with the nouns to which they relate.
14. **Troppo** means "too" in the sense of "too much". Where "too" has the meaning of "also", use **anche**. See also No. 10, Lesson 9.
15. **Andarvi**, "to go (there)". Note that the pronominal adverb **vi** ("there", "to it", "to them") has the same form and takes the same position as the pronoun **vi** ("you"). Like **ne** (Lesson 2, No. 29) it need not always be translated in English.  
**A che ora vanno a scuola? Vi (or: ci) vanno alle nove**, "At what time do they go to school? They go (there) at nine."
16. **Il lunedì**, "on Mondays". "On Monday" (last or next) would be rendered by **lunedì** without article. In these cases, of course, the noun is used adverbially. In its use as a true noun **lunedì** is "Monday". With the exception of **doménica** the days of the week and months of the year are all masculine.

Note also that "on" before an expression of time is not translated into Italian: e.g. "on the first of December", **il primo dicembre**.

17. **Non vanno a scuola**, "they do not go to school". In Italian a verb is made negative by placing **non** before it, and the English auxiliary verb "to do" is not translated: e.g. **Maria canta**, "Mary sings (is singing)"; **Maria non canta**, "Mary does not sing (is not singing)". There are other forms of the negative that will be explained as they occur in the text (see, for instance, No. 22, in Lesson 7).
18. **Perchè**, "because". Note the spelling, which is exactly the same in the word for "why?" in the Conversation of Lesson 4.
19. **Hanno vacanza**, "they have a holiday". In certain "set" phrases, of which this is one, the indefinite article is omitted. Similarly **è giorno di riposo**, "it is a day of rest".
20. **Nè la domenica**, "nor on Sundays". In negative sentences like the one now being dealt with the **nè** standing alone is equivalent to "and not", here "and they do not do so". Note **nè... nè**, "neither... nor". The use of the grave accent on **nè** is to distinguish it from the pronoun **ne**.
21. **Delle**, "some", is another instance of the partitive article, which is here feminine plural to agree with **bambole**.
22. **Belle**, "beautiful", "fine". When preceding a noun this adjective has similar forms to those of the definite article: **bello, bel, bella, bell'**; pl. **begli, bei, belle**. Examples: **un bel quadro**, "a fine picture"; **bei fiori**, "beautiful flowers"; **un bello specchio**, "a beautiful mirror"; **molti begli alberi**, "many fine trees". When used predicatively, however, the full forms are used: e.g. **il quadro è bello**, "the picture is beautiful"; **questi fiori sono belli**, "these flowers are beautiful". Compare **quello**, Lesson 12, No. 26.
23. **Preferisce**, "prefers", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the verb **preferire**, "to prefer". In the 3rd conjugation there are two types of verb, the greater number being conjugated like **preferire**. These verbs take **isc** between the stem and termination in all the persons of the singular and in the 3rd person plural of the present tense (indicative and subjunctive), and also in the 2nd person singular ("familiar form") of the Imperative. Examples: **finire**, "to finish"; **finisco**, "I finish"; **finiamo**, "we finish"; **finiscono**, "they finish". There are a few verbs like **sentire**, "to feel", that do not add this **isc** and a few in which it may be omitted or inserted. Any examples in the text will be noted as they occur.

24. **Cavallo di legno**, "wooden horse". Adjectives denoting the material of which an object is made are rare and seldom used in Italian. English adjectives of material are usually rendered by the corresponding nouns preceded by **di** or **in**. Cf. **calze di lana**, "woollen stockings", where **di lana** represents the adjective "woollen" just as **di legno** above represents the adjective "wooden".
25. **Giocattolo meccanico**, "mechanical toy". The normal position of the adjective in Italian is after the noun: e.g. **automóbili private**, "private cars"; **álberi fruttiferi**, "fruit trees". Note, however, that numeral adjectives and adjectives of very common use generally precede the noun, provided they are not modified by an adverb: e.g. **sei libri**, "six books"; **una grande stanza**, "a large room", but **una stanza molto grande**, "a very large room". Adjectives of nationality shape, colour and material follow, unless expressing an inherent quality or characteristic of the noun: e.g. **la lingua italiana**, "the Italian language"; **una távola rotonda**, "a round table"; **un cappello bianco**, "a white hat", but **la bianca neve**, "the white snow". An adjective may always follow the noun if it is specially emphasized (cf. Lesson 4, No. 21).
26. **Alle otto**, "at eight o'clock". For a detailed explanation of ways to express time see Lesson 25. For the time being note that the feminine plural word **ore**, "hours", is understood in this phrase and that therefore the literal meaning of **alle otto** is "at the eight hours".
27. **Vi è**, "(there) is". Where, in English, "is" and "are" really mean "there is" and "there are", the Italian rendering should be **vi** (or **ci**) **è**, **vi** (or **ci**) **sono**, not **è**, **sono**, without the adverb.
28. **Lettino**, "little bed" or "cot", is made up of the noun **lett(o)**, "bed", with the addition of the diminutive suffix **-ino**.
29. **Vicino al treno**, "near the train". When used as a preposition **vicino** must be followed by **a**, which is here combined with the definite article **il** to form **al**.

### Conversation.

30. **Si divertono**, "they are amusing themselves", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the reflexive verb **divertirsi**, "to amuse oneself". A verb is called reflexive when its object is the same person or thing as its subject, as in the sentences "*you wash yourself*", "*the child amuses himself*". With the exception of the 3rd person **si** the reflexive pronouns are the same as the other object-pronouns: **mi vede**, "he sees me"; **mi diverto**, "I amuse myself"; **lo vediamo**, "we see him"; **si lava**, "he washes himself".

Some verbs may be used reflexively or otherwise, as in English: e.g. **il bambino ci diverte**, "the child amuses us"; **si diverte**, "he amuses himself". There are a number of verbs, however, that are reflexive in Italian, but not in English: e.g. **alzarsi**, "to get up"; **si alzano**, "they get up".

Note that **divertire** is one of the verbs of the third group conjugated like **sentire**, not like **preferire**.

31. **Di chi**, lit. "of whom". This is the usual way of expressing "whose" when it is interrogative. When it is relative, use **il cui** or **del quale**, which must agree in gender and number with the noun qualified: e.g. **una signora, il cui nome è Maria**, "a lady whose name is Mary"; **il signore, le cui figlie conosco**, "the gentleman whose daughters I know"; **l'autore, dei cui libri si parla**, "the author of whose books they (*impersonal pronoun*) are speaking"; **le fanciulle, delle quali vediamo i libri**, "the girls whose books we see".
32. **La bambola è di Francesca**, "the doll is Frances's" or "the doll belongs to Frances", lit. "the doll is of Frances". The phrase "to belong to" can be rendered by **appartenere a**, but **essere di** is more idiomatic.
33. **Quale**, "which", may be an interrogative adjective or pronoun: e.g. **quali libri ha comprato?**, "which books has he bought?"; **quale di questi libri preferisce lei?**, "which of these books do you prefer?"
34. **Un anno e mezzo**, "a year and a half". If **mezzo** follows the noun to which it refers, it is usually invariable and the indefinite article is omitted: e.g. **una mezza libbra**, "half a pound"; **tre libbre e mezzo**, "three pounds and a half".
35. **Che età ha ella?**, "how old is she?", lit. "what age has she?" This can also be expressed by **quanti anni ha ella?**, lit. "how many years has she?" **Ella** refers to persons only, but **essa**, which we have in the answer to this question, may refer to persons or things ("she", "it").
36. **Era**, "was", is the 3rd person singular, imperfect indicative, of the verb **essere**.
37. **Sarà**, "will be", is the 3rd person singular, future tense, of **essere**.
38. **Quante volte**, "how many times". When "time" has the sense of "occasion" it should be translated by **volta**: e.g. **tre volte**, "three times"; **molte volte**, "many times"; **una volta**, "once". When it has its usual general meaning as in "time past or present", etc., it must be rendered by **tempo**: e.g. **non ho tempo**, "I have no time".
39. **Cinque giorni alla settimana**, "five days a (per) week". The

preposition **a** may be used in phrases of this kind to express the idea of distribution, but some grammarians prefer the form without the preposition, viz. **cinque giorni la settimana**, etc.

40. **In quali giorni ?**, "on what days ?" Note the difference in the English and Italian prepositions used here. "On" (**su, sopra**) is rarely translated literally in Italian except when it is taken in a literal sense: e.g. **sulla tavola**, "on the table". Sometimes it is not translated at all (see No. 16) but, as a rule, it is rendered by another preposition: e.g. **ha parlato IN quell' occasione**, "he spoke *on* that occasion"; **A condizione che lei venga**, "on condition that you come"; **DALL'altra parte**, "on the other hand".
41. **Réstano a casa**, "they stay at home". Note the idiom **a casa**, "at home".

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 3.

**Andáre**, "to go".

*Pres. Indic.* : **vado, vai, va, andiamo, andate, vanno**

*Pres. Subj.* : **vada, vada, vada, andiamo, andiate, vádano**

*Future* : **andrò, andrái, andrà, andremo, andrete, andranno**

*Conditional* : **andréi, andresti, andrebbe, andremmo, andrete, andrébbero**

**Dáre**, "to give".

*Pres. Indic.* : **do, dai, dà, diamo, date, danno**

*Pres. Subj.* : **dia, dia, dia, diamo, diate, díano**

*Imp. Subj.* : **dessi, dessi, desse, déssimo, deste, déssero**

*Past Def.* : **detti or diedi, desti, dette or diede or diè, demmo, deste, déttero or diédéro**

*Future* : **darò, darái, darà, daremo, darete, daranno**

*Conditional* : **daréi, daresti, darebbe, daremmo, dareste, darébbéro**

**Méttere**, "to put".

*Past Participle* : **messo**

*Past Def.* : **misi or messi, mettesti, mise or messe, mettemmo, metteste, misero or méssero**

## Lesson 4 (Il Salotto)

1. **Quello dei signori Bianchi**, "Mr. and Mrs. Bianchi's". As there is no possessive case in Italian it is necessary in phrases of this kind to say "that of . . .": e.g. "My doll is bigger than Mary's", **la mia bámbola è più grande di quella di María**, lit. "my doll is bigger than that of (belonging to) Mary".
2. **Osserviamone l'interno**, "let us look at the interior (of it)". **Osserviamo** is the 1st person plural, imperative mood, of the verb **osserváre**, "to observe". Note the use of **ne** to round off the phrase, the idea being that **l'interno** is not complete in itself but stands for **l'interno del salotto** and **del salotto** is implied in **ne** (of it). It is because of the position of **ne** that we know that **osserviamo** is in the imperative and not the present indicative, although the forms for both are the same. If the meaning had been "we are looking at the interior", we should have had **ne osserviamo l'interno** in the Italian. When a pronoun follows a verb in the imperative it is usually joined to the verb to form one word (cf. No. 20, Lesson 12).
3. **A sinistra** is the more usual way of expressing "on the left", but **sulla sinistra** is also correct.
4. **Un grande specchio**, "a large mirror". Note that it is only when the article *immediately* precedes a noun beginning with an impure **s** that the form **uno** or **lo** is used. If the noun and article are separated by an adjective, the termination of the article varies according to the spelling of the *adjective*. (Cf. **uno spesso tappeto** below).
5. **Orologio a péndolo**, "(pendulum-)clock". **Orologio** is a general word used to denote any kind of timepiece, so when it is required to distinguish between different *kinds* of timepieces some qualifying word or phrase must be added. In this lesson, for instance, "clock" is represented by **orologio a péndolo** and in Lesson 7 by **orologio a muro**. A "watch" may be **orologio da tasca** (pocket-watch) or **orologio da polso** (wrist-watch).

English compound nouns are rendered in Italian in various ways, but chiefly by means of prepositions in conjunction with other parts of speech. Thus, the preposition **a** is used between two nouns, of which the second indicates the means by which the object denoted by the first one acts: e.g. **mulino a vento**, "windmill"; **máccina a vapore**, "steam-engine". Note that the second noun of the Italian is equivalent to the first noun of the English and the first noun of the Italian to the second of the English. **Da** is used between two words of which the second expresses the use or purpose of the object denoted by the first (see also No. 19): e.g. **carta da scrivere**, "writing-

paper"; **bottiglia da vino**, "wine-bottle" (not "bottle of wine", which is **bottiglia di vino**). **Di** is used between two words of which the second simply qualifies the first without denoting means or purpose, etc.: e.g. **maestro di scuola**, "schoolmaster"; **casa di campagna**, "country-house".

6. **Paralume**, "lampshade". The prefix **para** is derived from **parare**, "to protect (against)", "to screen (from)", and so denotes a protection against or screening from the thing or idea expressed in the main component. Thus **paralume** means something that screens from the light (**lume**). Cf. **paracadute** (m.), "parachute" (a protection against falls); **parafango** (m.), "mud-guard" (a protection against mud); **paracqua** (f.), "umbrella" (a protection against rain, lit. water). Note that **para** drops its final **a** before a word beginning with **a**.
7. **Davanti al fuoco**, "in front of (before) the fire". When used as a preposition **davanti** is generally followed by **a**. Cf. **davanti al piano** below (in the text of the Lesson).
8. **Paio**, "pair", is of masculine gender, but it has a plural in **-a** which is feminine: **le due paia**, "the two pairs".
9. **Attizzatoio**, "poker". As the **i** in the termination is not stressed, the plural of this word is **attizzatoi**.
10. **Libreria**, "book-case"; is also used for "bookseller's shop" and "library". In the case of public libraries, however, the word **biblioteca** is preferred.
11. **Nascosta**, "hidden", is the past participle of the irregular verb **nascóndere**, "to hide". It is feminine because it is used adjectivally to agree with the noun **porta**.
12. **A metà**, "half", is an adverbial phrase composed of the feminine noun **metà** and the preposition **a**. It usually comes after the word it qualifies. "Half", as an adjective, is **mezzo** (see Lesson 3, No. 34).
13. **Si vede**, "is seen", "one sees". The uses of the pronoun **si** are important and the student should carefully note the following:—

(a) To express the sense of the English passive in the 3rd person singular or plural when the agent is not expressed: e.g. **si parla italiano**, "Italian is spoken"; **si vedono molte cose**, "many things are seen". In colloquial speech the verb is nearly always in the singular, as if **si** were the subject of the verb: **si vede molte cose**.

(b) To render the impersonal "one", "we", "they", "people", etc. when there is no noun-complement: e.g. **si deve lavoráre**, "one (people) must work": **si dice**, "they say" (but: **si dicono molte cose**, "they say (one says) many things", "many things are said"); **si va spesso**, people



often go". When used in this way **si** always takes the 3rd person singular of the verb, no matter whether the English word it represents is in the singular or plural.

Note that the verb **essere**, although used in the singular, may take a following adjective (and the past participle, if the tense is a compound) in the plural: e.g. **si è contenti**, "one is pleased"; **si è stati contenti**, "one has been pleased". Other verbs, such as **rimanere**, "to remain" and **divenire**, "to become", often follow the same construction.

14. **Pianista**, "pianist", may be either masculine or feminine. In the plural of these masculine nouns in **-a** the termination is **-i**: e.g. **poeta**, "poet", **poeti**, etc.
15. **Mezzo**, here "middle", has several meanings when used as a noun: e.g. **con mezzi onesti**, "by fair means"; **mezzi limitati**, "limited means"; **il giusto mezzo**, "the happy medium"; **il mezzo**, "the average".
16. **Con sopra un vaso di fiori**, "with a vase of flowers on it". Note the omission of the pronoun "it" in the Italian. "A flower-vase" would be **un vaso da fiori** (see No. 19 below).
17. **Mobili** means "pieces of furniture" or "furniture" (collectively). The latter idea can also be rendered by **mobilia** (f.), which has no plural. Note: **I mobili sono molto belli**, "The furniture is very fine". **Il piano è un bel mobile**, "The piano is a fine piece of furniture".
18. **Tavolino**, "small table", is formed from **tavolo**, "table", and the diminutive suffix **-ino**.
19. **Gabbia da canarino**, "canary-cage". In addition to its usual meanings of "by", "from", "since", **da** has others not so easy to translate into English. It may convey the idea of "destined for", "suited to", "as", "like", etc. Note, for instance, **sala da pranzo**, a room *intended for* the serving of meals, that is a "dining-room"; **parla da uomo d'onore**, "he speaks *as* a man of honour" (note omission of indefinite article in the Italian); **la ragazza dai capelli biondi**, "the girl *with* (the) fair hair." **Da** also means "at the house (shop, office, etc.) of" or "to the house of" (cf. French **chez**): **venite da me**, "come to my house"; **egli è stato dal signor Bianchi**, "he has been at Mr. Bianchi's".
20. **Ricoperto**, "covered", is the past participle of the verb **ricoprire**, which may mean "to cover again" or simply "to cover". There are a number of similar words which, although having the prefix **ri-** meaning "again" (see Lesson 2, No. 36), also maintain the sense of the verb without the prefix.
21. **Da uno spesso tappeto**, "by a thick carpet". In a sentence like "he is wearing some old shoes", if the main idea to be conveyed

is that the shoes are *old*, then in Italian the adjective **vecchie** must follow the noun (**porta delle scarpe vecchie**), but if the meaning is simply that he is wearing some shoes and that, incidentally, they are old, then the adjective **vecchie** must precede the noun (**porta delle vecchie scarpe**). In the text the main idea is that the floor is covered by a *carpet*, not that the carpet is *thick*, so in this case the adjective precedes the noun (see also Lesson 3, No. 25).

22. **Al soffitto è sospesa**, "from the ceiling is hung". **Sospesa** is the past participle of the irregular verb **sospendere**, "to hang", and is feminine to agree with **lâmpada**. **Sospendere** generally requires the preposition **a**.
23. **Muri**, "walls", is the plural of the masculine noun **muro**, but **muro** has another, irregular, plural: **mura**. **Muri** is used to denote the walls of a house, **mura** the walls of a city or fortress, etc.
24. **Carta da parati**, "wallpaper". See No. 19 above for the uses of the preposition **da**. **Parati** (m. pl.), the literal meaning of which is "hangings", "tapestry", must not be confused with **le pareti**, "walls".

### Conversation.

25. **Questo è più grande**, "this one is larger". As a pronoun **questo** can be translated "this" or "this one". The word "one", frequently used in English after an adjective to avoid the repetition of the noun qualified by the adjective, cannot be translated in Italian. In such cases the adjective is used alone. Cf. **Preferite il cappello bianco od il rosso?**, "do you prefer the white hat or the red one?" **Mi piace il piccolo**, "I like the little one".
26. **Assái** is an adverb meaning "very" or "much" according to what part of speech follows: **assái bello**, "very beautiful"; **assái danaro**, "much money"; **assái meglio**, "much better".
27. **Meglio**, "better", is the comparative of the adverb **bene**, "well", and as such is invariable. The adjective "better" is **migliore**, pl. **migliori**: e.g. "do you feel better (*adv.*) today?", **sta meglio oggi?**; "this book is better (*adj.*) than the others", **questo libro è migliore degli altri**.
28. **Le piace**, "do you like?", lit "does it please you?". **Piace** is the 3rd person singular, present tense, of the irregular verb **piacere**, "to please", which always takes an indirect object, that is to say, it is really equivalent to the English phrase "to be pleasing to": e.g. **piace al ragazzo**, "it pleases (is pleasing to) the boy". The most frequent use of **piacere** is to translate the English verb "to like" and the example given

above could also be rendered "the boy likes". In this case the object in the English sentence becomes the subject in the Italian and the subject becomes the indirect object:

I (*subject*) like the Spring (*direct object*),

**mi** (*indirect object*) **piace la primavera** (*subject*), literally "to me is pleasing the Spring".

It follows that if the object in the English sentence is plural, the verb will be plural in the Italian: e.g. "I like flowers", **mi piacciono i fiori**, lit. "to me *are* pleasing the flowers".

**Le** is the indirect object-pronoun of the "polite" form (see Lesson 3, No. 4), "to you". The subject-pronoun is **lei** and the direct object pronoun **la**: **lei vede**, "you see"; **la vedo**, "I see you"; **le dà il libro**, "he gives (to) you the book". Note that object-pronouns usually precede their verb. For exceptions see Lesson 5, No. 27.

29. **Più**, "more". The English construction "the more... the more" is rendered by **più... più**, as in **più lo vedo, più mi piace**, "the more I see it, the more I like it". Similarly **meno... meno**: **meno studia, meno impara**, "the less he studies, the less he learns".

30. **Certamente**, "certainly". Adverbs are formed regularly by adding **-mente** to the feminine form of the corresponding adjective: e.g. **generoso**, "generous"; **generosamente**, "generously". **Felice**, having the same form for masculine and feminine forms the adverb **felicemente**. Adjectives in **-le** or **-re** drop the final vowel before adding **-mente**, provided that there is no consonant before these endings: e.g. **regolare**, "regular"; **regolarmente**, "regularly", but **mediocre**, "mediocre", "moderate"; **mediocrementemente**, "moderately".

31. **Che le pare della libreria?**, "what do you think of the book case?" lit. "what to you seems of the bookcase?" **Pare**, "it seems", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of **parere**, "to seem".

"To think of" in the sense of "to have an opinion about" something may be translated simply **pensare di**, but there are other expressions more idiomatic and more commonly used, such as the one in the sentence above. In this case the subject of the English verb becomes the indirect object of the Italian verb, which is used impersonally (cf. **le piace**, No. 28 above): What do you (*subject*) think of it?

**Che ve** (*indirect object*) **ne pare?** literally "what to you of it seems?"

32. **Modesta**, as well as meaning "modest", "reserved", may also signify "simple", "plain", "ordinary", "moderate".

**prezzo modesto**, "moderate price"; **ábiti modesti**, "simple or plain clothes".

33. **Poco elegante**, "not very beautiful", lit. "little elegant". Note this use of **poco** to express "not much", "not very", etc.
34. **Al di sopra della távola**, "above the table". The preposition **sopra** used alone is not followed by **di** as is the case with **al di sopra**: **sopra il piano** or **al di sopra del piano**, "above the piano". **Sopra il piano** may also mean "on the piano". The exact meaning can always be gathered from the context.

---

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 4.

**Coprire**, "to cover".

Like **aprire**, Lesson 2.

**Nascondere**, "to hide".

Like **rispondere**, Lesson 2.

**Parere**, "to seem".

*Past Participle*: **parso**

*Pres. Indic.*: **paio, pari, pare, pariamo** or **paiamo, parete, páiono**

*Pres. Subj.*: **paia, paia, paia, pariamo** or **paiamo, pariate, páiano**

*Past Def.*: **parvi** or **parsi, paresti, parve** or **parse, paremmo, pareste, pávero** or **pársero**

*Future*: **parrò, parrái, parrà, parremo, parrete, parranno**

*Conditional*: **parréi, parresti, parrebbe, parremmo, parreste, parrébbero**

**Piacere**, "to please".

*Pres. Indic.*: **piaccio, piaci, piace, piacciamo, piacete, piácciono**

*Pres. Subj.*: **piaccia, piaccia, piaccia, piacciamo, piacciate, piácciano**

*Past Def.*: **piacqui, piacesti, piacque, piacemmo, piaceste, piácuero**

**Ricoprire**, "to cover (again)".

Like **aprire**, Lesson 2.

**Sospendere**, "to hang".

*Past Participle*: **sospeso**

*Past Def.*: **sospesi, sospendesti, sospese, sospendemmo, sospendeste, sospésero**

## Lesson 5 (Un Pranzo)

1. **Stanza da pranzo**, "dining-room". (See Lesson 4, No. 19).
2. **Nella quale**, "in which". The relative pronouns are **che**, **cui**, **il quale**. They are all used for both persons and things and mean "who", "whom", "which" or "that". **Che** and **cui** are invariable but **il quale** has feminine **la quale** and plural **i quali**, **le quali**. Speaking generally, **che** can only be used as subject or direct object and **cui** only as indirect object or after a preposition. The relative pronoun can never be omitted in Italian as it often is in English.

Examples:—

**Il libro che è sul pavimento**, the book that is on the floor.

**L'uomo che vedete**, the man (whom) you see.

**Le persone a cui (alle quali) parliamo**, the people to whom we speak or the people we speak to.

**Il padre di Maria, il quale è nel giardino**, Mary's father, who is in the garden.

The form **il quale** is used instead of **che** to avoid ambiguity, as in the last example given. If **che** were used in this case it could only refer to **Maria**.

3. **Stanno pranzando**, "are dining", "are having dinner". "To have dinner" is not translated literally in Italian. The equivalent is **pranzare**, "to dine", or **fare pranzo**, lit. "to make dinner".
4. **Invitati**, "guests", is the plural of **invitato**, which is really the past participle of the verb **invitare** used as a noun. There is a corresponding feminine **invitata**, pl. **invitate**. Another word for "guest" is **ospite** (m. or f.), but this may also mean "host" or "hostess".
5. **Ciascún**, "each", has forms like the indefinite article: e.g. **ciascún ospite**, "each guest"; **ciascuno specchio**, "each mirror".
6. **Serve**, "serves", "is serving", is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the verb **servire**, which is conjugated like **sentire**. Note that, with the exception of the 2nd person plural (see below), the endings in the present tense of these verbs are the same as those of 2nd conjugation verbs: e.g. **crediamo**, "we believe", **serviamo**, "we serve"; **credono**, "they believe", **servono**, "they serve": but **credete**, "you believe", **servite**, "you serve".
7. **Necessari**, "necessary", is the masculine plural of the adjective **necessario** (unaccented i).
8. **Ogni**, "every", is an invariable adjective: e.g. **ogni padre**, "every father"; **ogni madre**, "every mother".

9. **Davanti**, "before", is an adverb here. In English we should use the preposition with a pronoun, viz. "before *him*" (cf. No. 16, Lesson 4).
10. **Tovagliolo**, sometimes spelt **tovagliuolo**, "table-napkin", is made up of **tovaglia**, "table-cloth", and the diminutive suffix **-(u)olo**.
11. **Dei bicchieri**, "(some) glasses". **Dei** is the masculine plural of the partitive article referred to in Lesson 3, No. 7. Remember that it is not always necessary to include it in the English translation.
12. **Qualche volta**, "sometimes". The noun governed by the indefinite and invariable adjective **qualche** must always be in the singular, even when the meaning is plural: **qualche persona**, "some persons (people)".
13. **Di una elegante semplicità**, "in quiet but good taste", lit. "of an elegant simplicity". When **di** precedes an abstract noun or is used with a noun to replace an adjective, the noun is not preceded by an article unless it is modified by an adjective, as here. (Cf. Lesson 3, No. 24).
14. **Pochi quadri**, "few pictures". **Pochi** is the plural of **poco**. The **h** is inserted to keep the hard sound of the **c**, which is naturally hard before **-a**, **-o** or **-u**, but which becomes soft before **-e** or **-i**. Notice the difference on the record between the sound of the **c** in **semplicità** and that in **pochi**.
15. **Di seta**, "silk". (See Lesson 3, No. 24).
16. **Un gran tappeto rosso**, "a large red carpet". If a noun is qualified by two or more adjectives, the one of least importance is placed before the noun, the others after; if none of them are specially emphasized, all will come before; if all are emphasized, all will come after. Note, however, that in such cases the final adjective is preceded by the conjunction **e**. Examples: **un piccolo gatto nero**, "a small black cat"; **un ragazzo orgoglioso e pigro**, "a vain, lazy child"; **una bella e nuova casa**, "a beautiful new house".

### Conversation.

17. **A che ora**, "at what time", lit. "at what hour". Note **l'ora del pranzo**, "dinner-time", and the idioms **un'ora fa**, "an hour ago"; **di buon'ora**, "early".
18. **Ordina che il pranzo sia servito?**, "do you order dinner to be served?", lit. "do you order that dinner should be served?" **Sia** is the 3rd person singular, present subjunctive, of the verb **essere**. It is in the subjunctive after the verb of commanding **ordina**.
19. **Andremo**, "we shall go", is the 1st person plural, future tense, of the irregular verb **andare**, "to go".

20. **Apparecchiate la tavola**, "lay the table". **Apparecchiate** is the 2nd person plural, "familiar" imperative, of the verb **apparecchiare**; "to prepare", "to get or make ready". It has the meaning of "to lay" in this connection only. Note the use of the familiar form of the imperative throughout the Conversation, whenever the lady of the house is addressing the servant.
21. **Franzeranno**, "will dine", is the 3rd person plural, future indicative, of the verb **pranzare**. The future tense of Italian verbs is generally formed from the infinitive. The final **-e** is dropped and the following endings added: **-ò, -ái, -à, -emo, -ete, -anno**. In the case of the 1st conjugation the **a** of the termination **-are** changes to **e**: e.g. **canterò**, "I shall sing"; **leggerà**, "he will read"; **finiranno**, "they will finish". (See also Lesson 8, No. 38).
- In addition to its ordinary meanings the Italian future tense can be employed to express probability without any idea of future time: e.g. **avrà diciotto anni**, "he is probably eighteen"; **saranno usciti**, "they have probably gone out".
22. **Noi**, "us", is what is known as a disjunctive pronoun, that is to say, it can be used apart from a verb (see No. 27 below). A preposition is always followed by a disjunctive, not conjunctive, pronoun: e.g. **vengono con me** (disjunctive form), "they are coming with me", but **mi** (conjunctive form) **vedono**, "they see me". The form **noi** is the same whether used as the subject of a verb or after a preposition: e.g. **noi parliamo**, "we speak"; **parlano di noi**, "they are speaking about us".
23. **Amici**, "friends", is the plural of the masculine noun **amico**. The rule is that nouns ending in **-co** form their plural in **-chi** if the stress is on the penultimate syllable, otherwise in **-ci**: e.g. **fico**, "fig", **fichi**; **médico**, "doctor", **médici**. There are, however, a number of exceptions to this rule and **amico** is one of them.
24. **Come siete puntuali**, "how punctual you are!" **Siete** is the 2nd. person plural, present indicative, of the verb **essere**. Note that the greater part of the conversation is carried on in this "familiar" form, which is sometimes used when addressing inferiors (i.e. the mistress to her servant), or equals with whom one is on familiar terms. It is also the form found in business communications, in advertisements and speeches, etc. The same form (**voi**) is employed for both singular and plural.
- We have now encountered three ways of expressing "you" in Italian: the "polite" form with **lei**, pl. **loro** (Lesson 3,

No. 4), the "intimate" form with **tu**, pl. **voi** (Lesson 2, No. 35) and the form with **voi** just mentioned.

In exclamations of this type the adjective or adverb qualified by **come** remains in the place it would occupy in the positive sentence (**siete puntuali**, "you are punctual"), whereas in English the order is reversed and the adverb or adjective precedes the verb: e.g. **è triste**, "he is sad"; **come è triste !**, "how sad he is !"

25. **Molto contenti**, "very pleased". As an *adverb* **molto** is, of course, invariable: Cf. **molte** (*adj.*) **persone sono molto** (*adv.*) **infelici**, "many people are very unhappy".
26. **Lo siamo anche noi**, "so are we", lit. "it are also we". "So", referring to an antecedent statement or phrase as a whole, is translated by **lo**, the masculine object-pronoun: Cf. **lo credo**, "I think so"; **lo dice**, "he says so."
27. **Vi ringraziamo**, "we thank you". Personal pronouns are divided into two classes, conjunctive and disjunctive; the former are those used as direct object of a verb or as indirect object without a preposition; the latter are those used as subject of a verb or after a preposition.

1	2	3			4
<b>essa</b>	<b>ve</b>	<b>lo</b>	<b>dà</b>	<b>per</b>	<b>noi</b>
she	to you	it	gives	for	us

1 and 4 are disjunctive pronouns; 2 and 3 are conjunctive.

It will be seen that conjunctive pronouns usually precede the verb, the exceptions being as follows:

When the verb is an infinitive, positive imperative, present participle or a past participle used apart from an auxiliary, the pronoun follows the verb and is joined to it to form one word: e.g. **sono felice di vedervi**, "I am glad to see you"; **guardateli**, "look at them" (see also No. 20, Lesson 12).

The above rules do not apply to **loro**, which always follows the verb, but it is never joined to it: e.g. **dà loro delle pere**, "he gives them some pears".

**Ringraziamo** is the 1st person plural, present indicative of the verb **ringraziare**, "to thank". Verbs in **-ciare** and **-giare** drop the **i** before **e** or **i**: other verbs in **-iare** drop the **i** only before another **i**. The termination for the 1st person plural, present indicative is **-iamo**, which is added to the stem, but in the case of **ringraziare** this would make **ringraziiamo**, so one **i** is dropped.

28. **Di cuore**, "heartily", lit. "of heart".

29. **Signori**, used in this sense, includes all those present, whether ladies or gentlemen. Cf. **signori in vettura** (Lesson 11, end of Part 1), lit. "(ladies and) gentlemen in carriage", the



expression used by the guard when asking passengers to take their seats on a train.

30. **In távola**, "on the table", is more idiomatic in this connection than the literal **sulla távola**. **Il pranzo è in távola** may be rendered "dinner is ready". Cf. **portáre in távola**, "to serve up".
31. **Andiamo** might mean "we are going" or "let us go", but the context tells us that the latter phrase is intended.
32. **Questo è il suo**, "*this is yours*". When the possessive pronoun is used predicatively and itself bears the stress, the definite article is omitted, but when the stress falls on the noun or pronoun to which the possessive refers, the article must be added. In other words, if the clause containing the possessive answers a question beginning with "whose?", there is no article; if it answers a question beginning with "which?", there is an article.

Examples:—

**Questo posto è suo,**

This place is *yours* (Whose place? Yours)

**Questo posto è il suo,**

This place is yours (Which place? This one)

33. **Ancora del pollo?**, "some more chicken?" Note this use of **ancora** to express "else" or "more". Cf. **ancora tre**, "three more"; **ancora un po'**, "a little more"; **che cosa ancora?**, "what else?"
34. **Versate del vino al signore**, "pour the gentleman out some wine", "pour out some wine for the gentleman". Note the construction of the Italian sentence.
35. **Desidera?**, lit. "do you want (desire)?" In English we should say "would you like?" using the conditional tense of the verb "to like".
36. **Fúmino pure**, "do smoke!", "won't you smoke?" **Pure** means "also", "even", but it has a number of idiomatic uses that are not easy to translate into English: e.g. **andate pure**, "go if you wish"; **venga pure**, "do come!"; **fate pure**, "certainly".
- Note the change to the polite imperative, which is formed from the 3rd person of the present subjunctive.
37. **Io fumerò**, "I'll smoke". **Fumerò** is the 1st person singular, future tense, of the verb **fumáre**.
38. **Vi**, "to you", has the same form as the direct object: Cf. **rivedervi** (in Conversation), "to see you again". (See also lesson 6, No. 36).
39. **Siamo molto grati della . . .**, "we are very grateful *for* the . . ." **Per** could also have been used here. Cf. **vi ringraziamo . . . per il gentile invito** in the text above.

40. **Serata**, "evening", "evening party". **Serata** has the idea of *duration*: **la sera**, "the evening"; **la serata**, "the whole length of the evening". Also **giorno, giornata**: e.g. **tutta la giornata**, "all day long".
41. **In casa vostra**, "in your home", "at your house". The definite article is omitted in a few standing phrases like the above and then the possessive usually follows the noun. **Da parte mia**, "from me"; **per amor mio**, "for my sake (lit. for my love)"; **a casa nostra**, "to our house".
42. **Non la dimenticheremo**, "we shall not forget it". **La** is the object-pronoun of **essa**: **essa (subject) è bella**, "it is beautiful", but **la (object) vedo**, "I see it". It is feminine because it refers to **la serata**.

In certain idiomatic phrases **la** represents an indefinite object, as in **pagarla cara**, "to pay dearly for it"; **darla vinta**, "to give it up"; **saperla lunga**, "to know a thing or two".

**Dimenticheremo**, "we shall forget", is the 1st person plural, future tense, of the verb **dimenticare**, "to forget". Verbs whose infinitives end in **-care** or **-gare** insert **h** after **c** or **g** wherever these letters precede **e** or **i**. This is to keep the hard sound of the consonant: e.g. **pagherò**, "I shall pay", from **pagare**, "to pay".

43. **Noi**, "we", is here used for emphasis.

44. **In casa**, "at home".

45. **Venite a farci (=fare + ci) una visita**, "come and (lit. to) pay us a visit". See No. 4, Lesson 2, for the use of the preposition **a** after verbs of motion. The English construction "come and . . .", "go and . . .", etc., cannot be translated literally into Italian. The conjunction "and" is omitted and the verb of motion governs a dependent infinitive: go and play", **andate a giuocare**.

**Ci** may be direct or indirect object; e.g. **ci vedono e ci parlano**, "they see us (direct object) and they speak to us (indirect object)".

46. **Sarà . . . un piacere il rivedervi**, "it will be a pleasure to see you again". In this sentence **il rivedervi** is the subject of **sarà**, so the literal translation would be "the 'to-see-you-again' will be a pleasure" or "the seeing you again will be a pleasure", where the infinitive is used with a definite article as a verbal noun (**il rivedervi**) in place of the English gerund ("seeing you again"). This is a frequent construction in Italian. Cf. **mi piace il viaggiare**, "I like travelling" (lit. "I like the 'to travel'"); **lo studiare non gli piace**, "he

does not like studying". The definite article before the infinitive is sometimes omitted (see No. 37, Lesson 8).

Note that any part of speech other than a noun is always masculine when used substantively.

47. **Potremo . . . continuáre**, "we shall be able to continue". **Potremo** is the 1st person plural, future tense, of the irregular verb **potére**, "to be able".

Most verbs followed by a dependent infinitive insert the preposition **di** before the latter. Some take **a** and a few like **potére** require no preposition at all.

48. **Simpática** can rarely be used with the same meaning as the English word "sympathetic". It may mean "congenial", "attractive", "likeable", "pleasant", etc.

---

### Irregular verb found in Lesson 5.

**Potére**, "to be able".

*Pres. Indic.* : **pòsso, puoi, può, possiamo, potete, possono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **possa, possa, possa, possiamo, possiate, póssano**

*Future* : **potrò, potrai, potrà, potremo, potrete, potranno**

*Conditional* : **potréi, potresti, potrebbe, potremmo, potreste, potrébbero**

## Lesson 6 (La Camera da Letto)

1. **La sera**, "in the evening". In adverbial expressions of time of this kind the preposition "in" is not used in Italian.
2. **Vado**, "I go", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **andáre**.
3. **Nella mia cámara**, "into my bedroom". The preposition **in** may express a state of rest or motion, as in the following examples: **mia cugina è nel suo giardino**, "my cousin is in her garden"; **andiamo in Inghilterra**, "let us go to England"; **saltò di álbero in álbero**, "he sprang from tree to tree".
4. **Mi spoglio**, "I undress (myself)", is the 1st person singular, present indicative of the reflexive verb **spogliársi** (from **spogliáre**, "to undress"). When the meaning is clear, the reflexive pronoun is not inserted in English, but it must not be omitted in Italian. As regards position, the reflexive pronouns follow the same rules as the conjunctive (see No. 27, Lesson 5).  
**Spogliáre**, which is transitive, means "to undress (somebody or something)", "to strip", "to pillage", etc.
5. **Vado a letto**, "I go to bed". Note the construction, which is here the same as the English. Cf. **vanno a scuola** (Lesson 3), "they go to school". In Italian some of these phrases omit the article where it is inserted in English, e.g. **andáre a teatro** (Lesson 29), "to go to *the* theatre".
6. **Prima**, "at first", is here an adverb. As a preposition it must be followed by **di**: e.g. **prima di noi**, "before us" (speaking of time).
7. **Insieme ad**, "together with", lit. "together to". Note the addition of **d** to **a** before a vowel. Some writers prefer to use **con** after **insieme**.
8. **Prima di addormentármí**, "before going to sleep". In such locutions a preposition must be followed by the infinitive and not by the gerund as in English: **senza parláre**, "without speaking"; **invece di studiáre**, "instead of studying" (see also No. 28, Lesson 14).

The reflexive pronoun attached to the infinitive varies with the subject of the sentence. In this case the subject is **io** (understood in the following clause **non ho sonno**), of which the corresponding reflexive pronoun is **mi**. Note how the reflexive pronoun varies in the following sentences:—

**Prima di addormentársi**, (egli) **fuma una sigaretta**,

Before going to sleep, *he* smokes a cigarette.

**Prima di addormentárci**, (noi) **leggiamo**,

Before going to sleep, *we* read.

9. **Non ho sonno**, "I am not sleepy", lit. "I have not sleep". The verb **avére** with a noun is used in this and in a number of similar expressions where the English equivalent is "to be" with an adjective: **avére sete**, "to be thirsty"; **avére fame**, "to be hungry". **Non** is always put before the verb, whatever the position of "not" in English.
10. **La mattina**, "in the morning". See No. 1 above.
11. **Pennello per la barba**, "shaving-brush". It would be equally correct to say **pennello da barba**, both **per** and **da** indicating the purpose for which the **pennello** is used.
12. **Mi rado**, "I shave (myself)", is another instance of a reflexive verb. The infinitive is **rádersi**, "to shave (oneself)".
13. **Spazzolino**, "(small) brush", is a combination of **spázzola**, "brush", and the diminutive suffix **-ino**.
14. **Mi pulisco i denti**, "I clean my teeth". We have already noted that the possessive adjective is not generally used before parts of the body (see Lesson 3, No. 9), being replaced by the definite article, but the idea of possession can be made clear by the use of a pronoun, as in the example given from the text. Instead of the literal rendering of "I clean my teeth" the Italian says "to me I clean the teeth". Cf. **si taglia il dito**, "he cuts his finger", lit. "to himself he cuts the finger".  
**Pulisco** is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the verb **pulíre**, "to clean", which is conjugated like **finíre** and **preferíre** (see Lesson 3, No. 23).
15. **Apro il rubinetto**, "I turn on the tap". **Apro** is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the verb **apríre**, "to open". Note how this verb is translated in the following phrases: **apre le cortine**, "he draws back the curtains"; **apre il rubinetto del gas**, "he turns on the gas"; **aprite l'interruttore**, "turn on the electric light", lit. "open the switch". The opposite of **apríre** is **chiúdere**, "to close": **chiudo il rubinetto**, "I turn off the tap", etc.
16. **Quello dell'acqua fredda**, "the cold water one", lit. "that of the cold water".
17. **Prendo un bagno**, "I have a bath", lit. "I take a bath". One can also say **faccio un bagno**, lit. "I make a bath", but not **ho un bagno**.
18. **Dopo**, "afterwards", here an adverb, may also be a preposition (see No. 29 below).
19. **Asciugamani**, "towels", is a compound noun formed from **asciuga** (3rd. pers. sing., present tense, of the verb **asciugáre**, "to dry") and **mani**, "hands".

20. **Porta-asciugamani**, "towel-rail", is another compound noun, derived from **porta** (3rd. pers. sing., present tense, of the verb **portare**, "to carry", "to bear") and **asciugamani**, "towels." There are a number of compound nouns beginning with **porta**. Unless definitely referring to members of the female sex, they are all masculine: e.g. **un portafiori**, "a flower-stand"; **un(a) portaléttiere**, "a postman (postwoman)". Naturally, such words are invariable.
21. **Mi vesto**, "I dress (myself)". **Vestirsi**, "to dress (oneself)", is conjugated like **sentire** with the addition of the reflexive pronouns.
22. **Presi nel guardaroba**, "taken from (lit. in) the wardrobe". **Presi** is the past participle (masc. pl.) of the irregular verb **prendere**, "to take". With certain verbs Italian asks "where?" when English asks "where from?" For this reason the preposition used above is **in** and not **da**, because the clothes are *in* the wardrobe.
- Guardaroba** is a compound noun formed from **guarda** (3rd. pers. sing., present tense, of the verb **guardare**, "to guard", "to keep") and **roba**, "clothes", "things". Like compound nouns beginning with **porta**, words formed with **guarda** are masculine, unless definitely referring to members of the female sex: e.g. **un guardafuoco**, "a fire-guard"; **un guardapetto**, "a breast-plate".
23. **Mi siedo**, "I sit down", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **sedersi**, "to sit (down)". This verb is generally reflexive in Italian, though not in English.
24. **Toeletta** here means "toilet-table" or "dressing-table", but it may also signify "toilet" alone: **fare la toeletta**, "to perform one's toilet".
25. **Sopra di essa**, "above it". When governing a personal pronoun **sopra** is followed by **di** (see also Lesson 20, No. 10).
26. **Spazzola da capelli**, "hair-brush". **Un capello** is "a (single) hair"; **i capelli** is "hair" (collectively). Do not confuse this word with **cappelli**, "hats". The difference is heard in the pronunciation, because double consonants are always sounded as such in Italian, that is, the two consonants are pronounced separately, not together as in English.
27. **Spazzolo**, "I brush", from **spazzolare**, "to brush". Note that the 1st person singular, present indicative, of all verbs ends in **-o**. In this paragraph we have **mi vesto** from **vestirsi**, **mi siedo** from **sedersi** and **pettino** from **pettinare**, etc.
28. **Faccio**, "I make", "I do", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **fare**.
29. **Dopo pochi minuti**, "after a few minutes". (See Lesson 5, No. 14).

30. **Pronto per uscire**, "ready to go out". The preposition **per** indicates purpose.
31. **Prendo il cappello ed il bastone**, "I take my hat and stick". The definite article is used instead of the possessive adjective as explained in No. 19, Lesson 1. Note also the repetition of the article.

### Conversation.

32. **Ho viaggiato** may mean "I have travelled" or "I have been travelling". **Viaggiato** is the past participle of the verb **viaggiare**, "to travel".
33. **Stanchissimo**, "very tired", is formed from **stanco**, "tired", and the suffix **-issimo**, the **h** being added to keep the **c** hard (see Lesson 5, No. 14).
34. **Un mio amico**, "a friend of mine", lit. "a my friend": cf. **molti miei amici**, "many friends of mine"; **questo mio cugino**, "this cousin of mine".
35. **Che conosce bene il suo albergo**, "who knows your hotel well". With the exception of **non**, "not", adverbs are generally placed immediately after the verb. In the case of compound tenses the adverb usually follows the past participle, but **già**, "already", **mai** (in conjunction with **non**), "never", **più** (in conjunction with **non**), "no more", "no longer" and **sempre**, "always", usually precede it. An adverb may, however, come at the beginning of a clause and is then generally emphatic.

Examples:—**Non l'ho mai visto**, I have never seen him  
**Non ci andrò più**, I shall go there no longer  
**Ha sempre viaggiato**, he has always travelled  
**Mi ha invitato spesso**, he has often invited me  
**Viene raramente a vederla**, he rarely comes to see her  
**Fortunatamente arrivò a tempo**, *luckily* he arrived in time

There are two Italian verbs for "to know": **sapere** and **conoscere**. The former means to know a thing or a fact by means of one's reason, through experience or through having learnt it; it also expresses the English "can" in the sense of "to know how to (do something)". The latter means to know with the idea of "to be acquainted with". Examples: **non ne so nulla**, "I know nothing about it"; **sa la lezione a memoria**, "he knows the lesson by heart"; **sapete chi canterà?** "do you know who will sing?"; **sanno nuotare**, "they can (know how to) swim"; **conosco questa signora**, "I know this lady"; **conosce la città**, "he knows the town". (For forms of **sapere** see end of Lesson 8).

36. **Me lo ha raccomandato**, "has recommended it to me". When two conjunctive pronouns come together, the indirect object precedes the direct. **Loro**, however, always comes last.

**Mi, ti, ci, vi, si** become **me, te, ce, ve, se** before **lo, la, li, le, ne**, and if the two words follow the verb they are joined together.

Examples :— **me lo dà**, he gives it to me  
**dátelo loro**, give it to them  
**dátecelo**, give it to us

37. **La ringrazio di aver accettato**, "I thank you for having accepted" "... for accepting". The preposition is followed by the infinitive in accordance with the rule set forth in No. 8 above. The perfect infinitive is used here because the action of the infinitive precedes that of the main verb; the "accepting" took place before the "thanking". In cases like this Italian uses the perfect instead of the present infinitive.

The final **-e** of the infinitive may be dropped before any word except one that begins with impure **s**: **avér accettato**, but **avére spiegato** (to have explained).

38. **Darò**, "I will give", is the 1st person singular, future tense of **dàre**, "to give". Note that verbs of only two syllables with the infinitive in **-are** do not change the **a** to **e** in the future. Cf. **fàre**, "to make"; **farò**, "I shall make".

39. **Óttima**, "excellent", is what is known as an *absolute* superlative, that is, it expresses a very high degree but without any idea of comparison. **Óttimo** is the absolute superlative of **buono**, of which the ordinary or *relative* superlative is **il migliore**: e.g. **questo libro è il migliore di tutti**, "this book is the best of all"; **questo è un óttimo libro**, "this is an excellent (a very good) book".

The absolute superlative may be formed—

(a) by adding **-issimo** to the adjective after the final vowel has been dropped: **grande**, "large"; **grandissimo**, "very large".

(b) by putting a qualifying adverb before the adjective: **bello**, "beautiful"; **assái bello, molto bello**, "very beautiful".

(c) by repeating the adjective. This method, however, is rare: **un mare calmo calmo**, "a very calm sea".

A few adjectives have an absolute superlative in **-érrimo**: e.g. **acre**, "sour"; **acérrimo**, "very sour". The superlative of others is quite irregular: **cattivo**, "bad"; **péssimo**, "very bad".

40. **Manca l'aria**, "it's stuffy", lit. "it lacks air". The verb **mancàre** may be used either personally or impersonally and can be translated in different ways: **manca di danaro**, "he is short of money"; **non mancherà dí nulla**, "she will lack



nothing"; **mi manca la bella vista**, "I miss the beautiful view"; **mancare al proprio dovere**, "to fail in the fulfilment of one's duty"; **il coraggio gli manca**, "courage fails him".

41. **Desidero fare un bagno**, "I want (to have) a bath". **Desiderare**, "to desire", belongs to the class of verbs like **potere** (Lesson 5, No. 47) that require no preposition before a dependent infinitive. Similarly **volere**, "to wish", and **dovere**, "to be obliged to": e.g. **vuole cenare?** and **devo svegliarla?** in the text below.

42. **Ben caldo**, "very warm". When the adverb **ben(e)**, lit. "well", qualifies an adjective or another adverb, it may signify "very", "fully", "quite", "thoroughly". **È ben lontano**, "it is very far away"; **è lontano ben dieci chilometri**, "it is quite ten kilometres off"; **sono ben miserabili**, "they are thoroughly miserable".

43. **Fra mezz'ora** (for **mezza ora**), "in half an hour". With expressions of time in the future "in" is usually rendered by **fra**. Cf. **fra tre giorni sarà finito**, "it will be finished in three days (in three days' time)".

44. **Appena fuori**, "just outside". **Appena**, with the literal meaning of "hardly", "scarcely", is also used to express the English "just" in the following sense: **l'ho appena finito**, "I have just finished it"; **appena pubblicato**, "just out (i.e. published)."

45. **Non ho fame**, "I'm not hungry", lit. "I have not hunger". (Cf. No. 9).

46. **A che ora devo svegliarla?**, "at what time shall (must) I call you?" When an infinitive depends immediately (i.e. without an intervening preposition) on another verb, a conjunctive pronoun belonging to the infinitive may go with either verb, so the above phrase could have been rendered: **a che ora la devo svegliare?** Cf. **posso vedervi** or **vi posso vedere**, "I can see you". It is impossible, however, to say **posso vi vedere**.

47. **Non ho affari urgenti**, "I haven't any urgent (pressing) business." When the word "any" really adds nothing to the sense of a phrase, it is omitted in the Italian. Cf. **vuole pane?**, "do you want (any) bread?"

In the plural **affari** means "business"; in the singular it means "business" in the sense of "matter", "concern", or "affair", "bargain". **Viaggia per affari**, "he travels on business"; **è affar mio**, "that is my business"; **un affare da nulla**, "a trifling matter"; **un affare d'oro**, "a profitable speculation".

48. **Voglio**, "I want", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **volere**, "to want", "to wish".

49. **Portátemi**, "bring me". According to rule the pronoun follows and is joined to the imperative. If, however, the latter had been in the negative, the pronoun would have preceded it: e.g. **non mi portate**, "don't bring me".
50. **Sì, signore**, "yes, Sir", is sometimes written as one word with an additional **s** after **sì**, viz. **sissignore**. Cf. **sissignora**, "yes, Madam", Lesson 19, Part 2.
51. **Buon bagno**, "(I hope you have a) good bath". This kind of wish is very common in Italian. On going to bed one will be left with the words **buona notte e buon riposo** ! (lit. good night and good rest), "good night and (I hope you) sleep well". On going to work the wish is **buon lavoro** ! (lit. good work), a free translation of which would be "I hope you get on all right at the office (or at work) to-day". On beginning a meal one often says **buon appetito** (lit. good appetite), "I hope you enjoy your lunch (dinner, etc.)". The correct reply is **altrettanto**, appr. "the same to you".

#### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 6.

**Conóscere**, "to know".

*Past Participle* : **conosciuto**

*Past Def.* : **conobbi, conoscesti, conobbe, conoscemmo, conoscete, conobbero**

**Dovére**, "to be obliged".

*Pres. Indic.* : **devo or debbo, devi, deve, dobbiamo, dovete, devono or debbono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **debba, debba, debba, dobbiamo, dobbiate, débbero**

*Past Def.* : **dovéi, dovesti, dovè or dovette, dovemmo, doveste, doverono or dovéttero**

*Future* : **dovrò, dovrá, dovrà, vorremo, vorrete, vorranno**

*Conditional* : **dovréi, vorresti, vorrebbe, vorremmo, vorreste, vorrebbero**

**Pióvere**, "to rain".

*Past Def.* : **piovve**

**Préndere**, "to take".

Like **sospéndere**, Lesson 4.

**Rádere**, "to shave".

Like **sorrídere**, Lesson 2.

**Volére**, "to wish".

*Pres. Indic.* : **voglio, vuoi, vuole, vogliamo, volete, vógliono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **voglia, voglia, voglia, vogliamo, vogliate, vóglino**

*Past Def.* : **volli, volesti, volle, volemmo, voleste, vóllero**

*Future* : **vorrò, vorrá, vorrà, vorremo, vorrete, vorranno**

*Conditional* : **vorréi, vorresti, vorrebbe, vorremmo, vorreste, vorrebbero**

## Lesson 7 (La Casa)

1. **Lezione settima**, "seventh lesson". The definite article is omitted before the ordinal numeral when the latter follows the noun: cf. **la sesta lezione** or **lezione sesta**, "sixth lesson".
2. This lesson demonstrates the use of the present perfect or "conversational" tense, which is employed when the events described belong to a past not far distant. It may sometimes be rendered by the same tense in English, but very often the English equivalent is the simple past tense. As already indicated in Lesson 2, No. 5, the perfect tense is usually made up of the present tense of the verb **avere** and a past participle: e.g. **ha incontrato**, "he has met", "he met"; **abbiamo incontrato**, "we have met"; **hanno incontrato**, "they have met". The cases in which **essere** must be used instead of **avere** will be noted as they occur (see No. 7 below).
3. **Ieri mattina**, "yesterday morning". **Stamattina** or **questa mattina**, "this morning"; **domattina** or **domani mattina**, "to-morrow morning".
4. **Ho incontrato**, "I met". Here the simple past tense will give the correct rendering in English because the time is definitely stated—"yesterday morning".

The past participle of 1st conjugation verbs is formed by adding **-ato** to the stem of the verb: e.g. **cantare**, **cantato**; **osservare**, **osservato**.

5. **Che non vedevo da lungo tempo**, "whom I had not seen for a long time", lit. "whom I did not see from a long time". In speaking of past time, "for", meaning "since", is translated **da**, not **per**. In the sense of "during", **durante** must be used: e.g. **piovve durante una settimana**, "it rained for a week".

If the action of the verb is considered as having taken place and still continuing, English uses the present perfect or past perfect tense, Italian the present or imperfect. Thus **vedevo** (imperfect) is rendered "I had seen" (past perfect). Cf. **studio il francese da tre anni** (or **sono tre anni che studio il francese**), "I have studied (lit. I study) French for three years"; **quando venne Maria, lavoravo già da due ore**, "I had already been working for two hours when Mary came". For the formation of the imperfect tense introduced here see Lesson 9, No. 11.

In adverbial phrases with **tempo**, the indefinite article is omitted: **lo studio da poco tempo**, "I have studied it for a short time".

6. **Mi ha invitato a fargli visita**, "he invited me to pay (to) him a visit". Several classes of verb, among them verbs of in-

ving, are followed by the preposition **a** before a dependent infinitive.

Note that "to pay someone a visit" is **fare (una) visita A qualcuno**.

7. **Sono andato**, "I went". Intransitive verbs generally form their compound tenses with **essere** and not **avere**: **egli è venuto**, "he has come"; "he came"; **essi sono arrivati**, "they have arrived". When used with **essere** the past participle varies like an adjective to agree with the subject.
8. **Da lui**, "to his house". This construction has already been referred to in Lesson 4, No. 19.
9. **È stato**, "it was", lit. "it is been". The verb "to be" is among those conjugated with **essere**: **esse sono state**, "they (fem.) have been". **Stato** is the past participle both of **essere** and **stare**.
10. **Quattro da letto**, "four bed(-rooms)". The word for "rooms" is understood from the previous phrase.
11. **Entrando**, "on entering". The English gerund preceded by a preposition is often rendered by an infinitive (with or without the definite article: see No. 28, Lesson 14) in Italian, but if the omission of the preposition would not essentially change the meaning, the phrase can be rendered by a present participle without a preposition: e.g. **partendo vide il suo amico**, "(on) leaving he saw his friend"; **sbagliando si impara**, "(by) making mistakes one learns".
12. **Vediamo una scala di legno che conduce al . . .** The English present participle used as an adjective is often represented by a relative clause in Italian, so this example may be translated "we see a wooden staircase *leading to the . . .*" or, literally, "we see a wooden staircase *which leads to the . . .*" **Conduce** is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **condurre**.
13. **Attaccapanni**, "hall-stand", is of masculine gender and invariable. It is formed from **attacca** (3rd person singular, present tense of **attaccare**, "to attach", "to hang up") and **panni**, "clothes".
14. **Per i cappelli, per i soprabiti e per gli ombrelli**, "for hats, coats and umbrellas". Note the repetition of both preposition and definite article. The definite article must be used before a noun employed in a general sense, to denote the whole of its kind or a whole class. Cf. **il danaro è utile**, "money is useful"; **le donne hanno paura dei topi**, "women are afraid of mice". The definite article so used must not be confused with the partitive article (see Lesson 3, No. 7).
15. **Crede che . . . non sia sano**, "thinks (that) central heating is not healthy". After a verb of thinking the subjunctive must be

used. **Sia** is the 3rd person singular, present subjunctive, of **essere**.

Remember that the relative **che** can rarely be omitted in Italian though its equivalent often is in English.

16. **Créscono**, "grow", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the irregular verb **créscere**, "to grow": When "to grow" means "to cultivate" or "to produce", it must be rendered by **coltiváre** or **prodúrre**, never **créscere**.

Cf. **coltivando delle piante** in previous paragraph.

17. **Frutti**, "fruit(s)", is the plural of the masculine noun **frutto**. There is another word for "fruit", **frutta**, which is feminine and invariable: **la frutta, le frutta**. If, however, the meaning is figurative, **frutto**, not **frutta**, should be used: e.g. **il frutto delle sue fatiche**, "the result of his labour"; **i frutti dello studio**, "the reward of study".

18. **Álberi di pere**, "pear-trees". The word **peri** also means "pear-trees". As a rule, the names of fruits are feminine and the corresponding words for the trees masculine: e.g. **la susina**, "the plum"; **il susino**, "the plum-tree". But **dáttero**, "date", **fico**, "fig", **limone**, "lemon" and **pomo**, "apple", are always masculine whether denoting the tree or the fruit.

### Conversation.

19. **Ábito a Roma**, "I live in Rome". Before names of cities "in" is generally rendered by **a** in Italian.
20. **Via Dante, 43**, "43, Dante Street". Note that the name of the street comes second and the number last. When addressing an envelope Italians often put the name of the town first and then the name and number of the street, viz.—

**Signora Anna Bianchi,**

**Firenze,**

**Via Mazzini, 37.**

21. **Come !**, "what!", "indeed!", is an exclamation of surprise and as such has lost its original meaning of "how".
22. **Non ábita più in campagna ?**, "aren't you living in the country now?", lit. "don't you live any longer in the country?" **Non** before the verb and **più** after regularly indicate "no longer", "no more". **Non è più un bambino**, "he is no longer a baby"; **non ci andrò più**, "I will go there no more", "I will never go there any more".
- "In or into the country" is **in campagna** without the article.
23. **Lei, che amava tanto**, "you, who were so fond of", lit. "you, who loved so much". The English expression "to be fond of" is usually rendered by **amáre** (to love) or **piacére a** (to

like; see Lesson 4, No. 28), rather than by more literal phrases such as **essere affezionato a**.

24. **Lei ha ragione**, "you are right", lit. "you have reason", is another example of the use of the verb **avere** with a noun where English would have "to be" with an adjective (see Lesson 6, No. 9).

25. **Ho dovuto venire in città**, "I (have) had to come to town". **Dovuto** is the past participle of the verb **dovere**. The past participle of verbs of the 2nd conjugation is formed by substituting **-uto** for the termination **-ere** of the infinitive: **credere**, **creduto**; **cadere**, "to fall", **caduto**.

**Venire in città** is the equivalent of the English "to come to town". In both cases the article is omitted but the preposition used is different.

26. **Ho dovuto . . . per poter mandare**, "I had to . . . so that I could send", lit. "... in order to be able to send". Where the subject of the principal and dependent clauses is the same the latter can be rendered by an infinitive in Italian, although in English it is usually better translated by a noun clause dependent on the conjunction "that" (whether expressed or not). **Sono contenti d'esser venuti**, "they are glad (that) they came", but **sono contenti che lei sia venuta**, "they are glad that you came".

Note how the different tenses of the verb **dovere** are translated into English, owing to the fact that **dovere** is not a defective verb, as "must" is. **Devo vederlo**, "I must see him"; **ho dovuto vederlo**, "I had (was obliged) to see him"; **dovrò vederlo**, "I shall have to see him".

27. **Mi ci trovo assai bene**, "I am very comfortable there", lit. "I find myself very well there". **Trovarsi bene** may mean "to be well" (in health) or "to be comfortable" (at one's ease). Note the order of the reflexive pronoun **mi** and the adverb **ci**. The latter follows **mi**, **ti** and **vi**, but precedes **si** and the object-pronouns **lo**, **la**, **li**, **le**.

28. **Venga**, "come", is the singular imperative, polite form, formed from the 3rd person singular, present subjunctive, of the irregular verb **venire**, "to come".

29. **Mia moglie e io ne saremo . . . contenti**, "my wife and I will be delighted" (lit. pleased). When the subjects of a verb are of different persons joined by the conjunction **e**, and one of them is in the 1st person, the verb must be in the 1st person plural: **mia moglie e io** (my wife and I) **saremo** (we shall be). In this sentence **ne** stands for **di vederla** (to see you) or some similar phrase: **saremo contenti di vederla**, "we shall be pleased to see you". An adjective like **contenti**, which qualifies two

nouns of different gender referring to persons, must be in the masculine plural (see also Lesson 21, No. 11).

30. **Verrà ?**, "will you come?", is the 3rd person singular, future tense, of **venire**.
31. **Alle due del pomeriggio**, "at two o'clock in the afternoon". Take note of this and similar expressions in which **di** is used for English "in".
32. **Non è vero ?**, "isn't it?", lit. "is it not true?". This is a "set" phrase in Italian, and remains unchanged, whatever the verb or subject in the principal clause: **lei legge molto, non è vero ?**, "you read a great deal, don't you?". **Essi sono arrivati, non è vero ?**, "they have arrived, haven't they?". Cf. French **n'est-ce pas ?** German **nicht wahr ?**
33. **Piena di sole e di aria**, lit. "it is full of sun and air". We have already noted the use of nouns in Italian where in English adjectives would be used. Here is a similar construction. We should say "it is very sunny and airy".
34. **Che bella villetta !**, "what a lovely (little) house!". In exclamations of this kind "what a" is rendered by **che** or **quale** without the indefinite article: **che peccato !**, "what a pity!"; **quale spettacolo !**, "what a show!". The same rule applies if the noun is qualified by an adjective, as in **che bel giardino !** below.
35. **Qui si è in città**, "here one is in the town". Note the impersonal **si è**, "one is", "you are".
36. **Sembra di essere**, "seems to be". **Sembrare**, "to seem", usually follows the rule of the majority of verbs by inserting **di** before a dependent infinitive (see Lesson 5, No. 47), but it is occasionally found without the preposition as in **sembrano uscire**, Lesson 17, No. 8.
37. **Ammirare**. This verb does not necessarily mean "to admire", but simply "to observe", "to look at".
38. **I fiori della mia serra**, "the flowers in my greenhouse". See No. 31 for another instance of the use of **di** for "in".
39. **È un vero piacere il coltivare le piante**, "growing plants is a real pleasure", a free translation of which is "I am very fond of gardening". We have here a further example of the use of the infinitive to express the English gerund (see Lesson 5, No. 46). Even in this sentence, where the infinitive is preceded by a definite article and has the form of a noun, it can still govern a direct object.

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 7.**

**Condurre, "to lead".**

*Pres. Participle* : **conducendo**

*Past Participle* : **condotto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **conduco, conduci, conduce, conduciamo, conducete, conducono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **conduca, conduca, conduca, conduciamo, conduciate, conducano**

*Imp. Indic.* : **conducevo, conducevi, conduceva, conducevamo, conducevate, conducevano**

*Imp. Subj.* : **conducessi, conducessi, conducesse, conducéssimo, conduceste, conducéssero**

*Past Def.* : **condussi, conducesti, condusse, conducemmo, conduceste, condússero**

*Future* : **condurrò, condurrái, condurrà, condurremo, condurrete, condurranno**

*Conditional* : **condurréi, condurresti, condurrebbe, condurremmo, condurreste, condurrébbero**

**Créscere, "to grow".**

*Past Participle* : **cresciuto**

*Past Definite* : **crebbi, crescesti, crebbe, crescemmo, cresceste, crébbero**



## Lesson 8 (La Strada)

1. **Corso** is the name given to certain streets, usually main streets, that are wide and long and frequently bordered with trees.
2. **Dove sono i magazzini più eleganti**, "where the most fashionable shops are". Note that the verb tends to occupy the central position in a clause. To put any verb at the end of a clause would be unusual and with the verb **essere** practically impossible.

When the superlative immediately follows the noun it qualifies, the definite article is omitted. **Questi magazzini sono i più eleganti della città**, "these shops are the most fashionable in the town", but **i magazzini più eleganti sono nel corso Vittorio Emanuele**, "the most fashionable shops are in Victor Emanuel Street".

3. **Palazzi**. The word **palazzo** may denote any large, important building, such as the **Palazzo di Giustizia**, "Law-Courts", **Palazzo della Borsa**, "Exchange", etc. It is, of course, also used for "palace."
4. **Adibito ad uso di . . .**, "intended for the use of . . ." The verb **adibire**, "to destine", is seldom used except in this form, that is, the past participle **adibito**.

**Ad uso di** is one of those "set" phrases in which the article is omitted.

5. **Banche**, "banks", is the plural of the feminine noun **banca**. The **h** is added to preserve the hard sound of the **c**. The masculine noun **banco**, pl. **banchi**, also has "bank" as one of its meanings.
6. **Caffè**, "cafés", is invariable, like all nouns accented on the final syllable.
7. **Vi si trovano molte persone**, "there are many people there" or "many people are to be met with there". **Trovarsi**, lit. "to find oneself", is often used as a simple alternative to **essere**.
8. **In tutte le ore**, "at all hours".
9. **Automobili**, "motor-cars", is here feminine, but can also be masculine. See Lesson 28: **l'automobile è diventato . . .**, etc.
10. **Pubbliche**, "public". Note the extra **b** in the Italian spelling.
11. **Tranvái**, "trams", is invariable. The word may also be spelt **tramvái**, **tramvía** or **tranvía**.
12. **Ómnibus**, "omnibuses". All monosyllables and all nouns ending in **-i**, **-ie**, **-u**, in an accented vowel or in a consonant, are invariable. There are several instances in this lesson: e.g. **tranvái**, **ómnibus**, **caffè**.
13. **Si incrociano**, "cross one another", not "cross themselves". This is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the reciprocal verb **incrociarsi**, which is identical in form with the reflexive. If any ambiguity is likely to arise, the sense can be

made clear by placing *l'un l'altro*, "one another", after the reciprocal verb. Another verb of this kind is *rispettarsi*, "to respect one another": e.g. *ci rispettiamo*, "we respect one another".

14. **Si fermano**, "(they) stop", is the 3rd person plural, present indicative of the reflexive verb **fermarsi**, "to stop" (intrans.). The transitive and intransitive verbs have the same form in English, viz. "to stop", but in Italian the intransitive verb is reflexive. The transitive form, that is, "to stop (something)" is **fermare**.
15. **Vicini l'uno all'altro**, "near (to) one another". Note the order: "near the one to the other".
16. **Che**, "that", is a conjunction here, although it has the same form as the relative pronoun.
17. **È difficile attraversare**, "it is difficult to cross". The adjective **difficile** is not followed by a preposition before a dependent infinitive. (See Lesson 2, No. 23).
18. **Via vái**, "coming and going", can be written as one word, **viavái**.
19. **Assordante**, "deafening", is the verbal adjective of **assordare**, "to deafen". (See Lesson 1, No. 45).
20. **Nelle strade più affollate**, "in the most crowded streets". (See No. 2 above).
21. **Se... non ferma**, "if... (he) does not hold up (stop)" or "unless... (he) holds up". Here we have the transitive form **fermare** already referred to in No. 14.
22. **Una guardia di città**, "a policeman". The word **guardia** is always feminine even when referring to a member of the male sex.
23. **Disgraziato**, "unfortunate". This word must not be confused with the English "disgraceful", which is **disonorante** or **vergognoso**. Similarly **disgrazia** means "misfortune", "ill luck" or "accident". "Disgrace" is **onta**, **vergogna** or **disonore**, etc.
24. **Ne è stordito**, "is stunned by it". **Ne** refers to all the noise (**chiasso**) and bustle (**via vái continuo**) of the busy street.
25. **Avvengono delle disgrazie**, "accidents happen". Note the position of the verb (see No. 2 above).
26. **Illuminate a gas**, "lit by gas". It is important to notice the difference in the prepositions used in Italian and English to express the same idea.
27. **Inondano di luce le strade**, "fill the streets with (see previous note) light". The order could not have been otherwise in this sentence because the relative clause must come *immediately* after its antecedent: **le strade, che... not di luce, che...**

28. **In pieno giorno**, "in broad daylight", lit. "in full day". Cf. **in pieno inverno**, "in the depth of winter"; **in piena estate**, "in the height of summer".

### Conversation.

29. **È la prima volta . . . che lei visita ?**, "is it the first time (that) you have visited ?" The action is considered not only as having already taken place but as still continuing, so Italian uses the present tense instead of the English perfect.
30. **Ho tentato ieri sera**, "I tried last night" (lit. yesterday evening), is an instance of the use of the perfect or "conversational" tense to describe something that happened in a past not very far distant. (See No. 2, Lesson 7.)
31. **Chiedere informazioni ad una guardia di città**, "to ask a policeman for information". **Chiedere**, "to ask for", takes a direct object of the *thing* required (**informazioni**) and an indirect object of the *person* from whom it is required (**ad una guardia**). **Chiede danaro al suo amico**, "he asks his friend for money", lit. "he asks for money to his friend".

**Chiedere** cannot be used for "to ask" in phrases like "to ask a *question*", which should be rendered **fare** (or **rivolgere**) **una domanda**.

**Informazioni**, with the meaning of "information", is generally used in the plural. In the singular, **informazione**, it may mean "a piece of information".

32. **Tutto è così cambiato**, "everything *has* changed so much". The verb **cambiare**, being here used intransitively, is conjugated with **essere**.
33. **Ebbene**, "well!", "well now!", "well then!", is made up of the conjunction **e** and the adverb **bene**. In Italian, when one word is prefixed to another, the initial consonant of the second is frequently doubled: e.g. **a + salire**<sup>1</sup> = **assalire**<sup>2</sup>; **e + fondere**<sup>3</sup> = **effondere**<sup>4</sup>; **in + alzare**<sup>5</sup> = **innalzare**<sup>6</sup>.  
(1. to rise, climb; 2. to attack, assault; 3. to fuse, melt; 4. to pour out, vent; 5. to raise; 6. to raise, elevate).
34. **Un po' di tempo libero**, "a little spare time". **Po'**, as a noun qualifying another noun, is followed by the preposition **di**. "Spare", when referring to time, is generally translated **libero**, "free". Cf. **le sue ore libere** in previous lesson.
35. **Un lungo tratto di strada da fare**, "a long distance (way) to go". The preposition **da** before an infinitive may indicate necessity, duty or purpose. **Ho molto da fare**, "I have a lot to do".
36. **Vuole che prendiamo ?**, "shall we take?", lit. "do you wish that we take?" **Prendiamo** is the 1st person plural, present subjunctive, of the irregular verb **prendere**, "to take". It is

subjunctive because it is dependent on a verb expressing *desire*. Note that the 1st person plural, present tense, has the same form in the subjunctive as in the indicative.

37. **Andàre a piedi**, "to walk", "walking", lit. "to go on foot". The infinitive used in this way to render the English gerund (as subject or direct object) is nearly always preceded by the definite article (see Lesson 5, No. 46), but this is not an absolute rule and students will sometimes find the infinitive without the article, as above. (Cf. also No. 20, Lesson 14).
38. **Sarebbe**, "would take", lit. "would be", is the 3rd person singular, conditional tense, of the verb **éssere**. The conditional tense always has the same stem as the future, which is usually formed from the infinitive (see Lesson 5, No. 21), but in some cases the stem of the conditional and future differs from the stem of the infinitive. **Éssere**, for instance, adds the future and conditional terminations to **sar-**, not **ess-**. In the case of the conditional these terminations are as follows: **-éi**, **-esti**, **-ebbe**, **-emmo**, **-este**, **-ébbero**.
39. **Non saremmo là che fra un'ora**, "we shouldn't get there under an hour", lit. "we should only be there in an hour". **Non** before the verb and **che** after are used to express "only" (adverb): **non le darà che due lire**, "he will give you only two lire". There is an alternative rendering with **soltanto**, "only": **le darà soltanto due lire**.

Note that the sole difference between the 1st person plural of the future and conditional tenses is that the latter has an additional **m**, and remember that in Italian double consonants are sounded as two separate consonants. It is therefore important that the student should make the difference felt and not pronounce **saremmo** (**sa-rem-mo**), "we should be", in the same way as **saremo**, "we shall be".

40. **Non ho fretta**, "I am not in a hurry", can be added to the list of expressions used with **avére** instead of **éssere**. This phrase could be translated "I am in no hurry": cf. **non ho danaro**, "I haven't any money" or "I have no money".
41. **Preferisco vedére**, "I prefer to see". **Preferisco** is also the equivalent of the English phrase "I would rather".
42. **Le dispiace ?**, "do you mind ?", lit. "is it displeasing to you ?". The verb **dispiacére** (also written **spiacére**), "to displease", is used in the same way as its antonym **piacére**, that is with the verb nearly always in the 3rd person governing an indirect object: **mi dispiacerebbe vivere qui**, "I should not like to live here"; **non mi dispiacerebbe vivere qui**, "I should not mind living here".

The prefix **dis** or **s** added to a word often changes the meaning of the word into its opposite and frequently corresponds to the English prefixes "dis-" and "un-". Cf. **caricare**, "to load", "to charge"; **scaricare**, "to unload", "to discharge"; **fortuna**, "luck"; **sfortuna**, "bad luck"; **fortunato**, "lucky"; **sfortunato**, "unlucky".

43. **Permetta . . . vada . . . attraversi . . . volti** are examples of the "polite" imperative, which is formed from the 3rd person, present subjunctive. In verbs of the 1st conjugation the infinitive ending **-are** is replaced by **-i** in the singular and **-ino** in the plural.

**parlare**, to speak; **parli**, speak!, pl. **parlino**.

In 2nd conjugation verbs and those of the 3rd like **sentire** the termination **-ere** or **-ire** is replaced by **-a** (sing.), **-ano** (pl.).

**credere**, to believe: **creda**, believe!, pl. **credano**.

**dormire**, to sleep: **dorma**, sleep!, pl. **dórmanno**.

In verbs like **preferire**, **isc** is inserted before the **-a(n)**.

**finire**, to finish: **finisca**, finish!, pl. **finiscano**.

The irregular verb **andare** has the forms **vada**, "go!", pl. **vádanno**, in the imperative.

44. **Vada per questa via**, "go along this road". Some of the uses of **per** may be seen from the following examples: **per me**, "as for me", "for my part"; **per mezzo d'un amico**, "through a friend", "by means of a friend"; **siamo per farlo**, "we are on the point of doing it"; **per terra o mare**, "by land or sea"; **egli disse quello per dispetto**, "he said that out of spite".

**Vada sempre per questa via**, "continue along this road" or "keep straight along this road". **Sempre**, "always", "still", when used with a verb often denotes continuity of the action of the verb.

45. **Fino ad una piazza**, "as far as a square". **Fino a** signifies "up to", "as far as". **Fino in**, however, suggests getting right into (within) a place, as in **fino in via Mazzini** in the text above, "right (in) to Mazzini Street".

46. **Lei è stato**, "you have been". The context shows that in this instance the rendering could not be "you were".

47. **Scusi**, "excuse me". The object-pronoun is often omitted in this form of apology.

48. **Sa dirmi?**, "can you tell me?" **Sa** is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **sapere**, "to know", which is here used because the idea is "do you know?" (see Lesson 6, No. 35).

49. **Si apre il Muséo**, "the Museum is opened". Here is another instance of the use of the indefinite pronoun **si** to express the passive.

50. **Aperto**, "open", is an adjective with the same form as the past participle **aperto**, "opened".

51. **Entrata** means "admittance", "entry", as well as "entrance".

---

### **Irregular verbs found in Lesson 8.**

**Avvenire**, "to happen".

Like **venire**, Lesson 2.

**Chiedere**, "to ask".

*Past Participle* : chiesto

*Pres. Indic.* : chiedo or chieggo, chiedi, chiede, chiediamo, chiedete, chiedono or chiéggono

*Pres. Subj.* : chieda or chiegga, chieda or chiegga, chieda or chiegga, chiediamo, chiediate, chédano or chiéggano

*Past Def.* : chiesi, chiedesti, chiese, chiedemmo, chiedeste, chiésero

**Córrere**, "to run".

*Past Participle* : corso

*Past Def.* : corsi, corresti, corse, corremmo, correste, córsero

**Dispiacére**, "to displease".

Like **piacére**, Lesson 4.

**Permettere**, "to permit".

Like **méttere**, Lesson 3.

**Sapére**, "to know".

*Pres. Indic.* : so, sai, sa, sappiamo, sapete, sanno

*Pres. Subj.* : sappia, sappia, sappia, sappiamo, sappiate, sappiano

*Past Def.* : seppi, sapesti, seppe, sapemmo, sapeste, séppero

*Future* : saprò, saprái, saprà, sapremo, saprete, sapranno

*Conditional* : sapréi, sapresti, saprebbe, sapremmo, sapreste, saprébbero

*Imperative* : (tu form) sappi, sappiate

## Lesson 9 (L'Albergo)

1. **Entrando**, "on entering". (See Lesson 7, No. 11).
2. **Traversái**, "I crossed", is the 1st person singular, past definite (also called "preterite") tense, of the verb **traversáre**, "to cross". This tense is formed as follows:—

To the stem of the verb are added the following endings according to the conjugation:—

1st. **-ái, -asti, -ò, -ammo, -aste, -árono**

2nd. **-éi, -esti, -è, -emmo, -este, -érono**

3rd. **-íi, -isti, -ì, -immo, -iste, -írono**

Examples:— **domand/ái**, "I asked"; **cred/è**, "he believed";  
**dorm/írono**, "they slept".

The past definite tense is used when one is writing a *narrative* and indicating each step in the story (see text: **traversai . . . mi diressi . . . potei . . . indicò . . . ordinò . . . salii**, etc.). It also denotes that an action happened at a definite time in the past, no indication being given that it was repeated (see second example under (b) below). As an alternative to the past definite tense, the present perfect is sometimes used when the events referred to belong to a past not far distant (see Lesson 7, No. 2). On the other hand, the imperfect tense, examples of which occur later, is used

- (a) to *describe* people or things as they appeared in the past:

**Il cielo era (imp.) azzurro,**

The sky was blue.

- (b) to express an incomplete or habitual action:

**Ci andava (imp.) ogni sera,**

He used to go there every evening.

*but*

**Ci andò (past def.) l'anno scorso,**

He went there last year.

- (c) to state what was in progress at the time when something else happened or was happening:

**Egli entrò (past def.) mentre cantavamo (imp.),**

He came in while we were singing.

The imperfect tense is essentially a *descriptive* tense. For its formation see No. 11 below.

3. **Adorno di**, "decorated *with*".
4. **Mi diressi**, "I went", is the 1st person singular, past definite tense, of the irregular and reflexive verb **dirigersi**, "to direct one's steps (to) . . .", "to go (towards)".
5. **Ad un impiegato domandái una buona camera**, "I asked a clerk for a good room". **Domandáre**, "to ask for", follows the same construction as **chiedere** (Lesson 8, No. 31). The

literal translation of this sentence is "to a clerk I asked for a good room".

6. **Era**, "was". Here is an example of the *descriptive* function of the imperfect tense: **non era troppo affollato**, "(it) was not too crowded."

7. **Malgrado non avessi preavvisato**, "although I had not informed beforehand". **Malgrado**, when a conjunction must be followed by the subjunctive, and **avessi** is the 1st person singular, past subjunctive, of **avére**, "to have". **Malgrado** is more commonly used as a preposition with the meaning of "in spite of".

8. **Fissata**, "booked", is the past participle of the verb **fissare**, "to book", "to fix". A past participle used with **avére** may or may not agree with its direct object. It nearly always agrees when the object precedes it:

**Questa è la casa che hanno vista** (or **visto**),

This is the house they saw.

It does not usually agree when the object follows:

**Hanno visto** (or **vista**) **una bella casa**,

They have seen a beautiful house.

It always agrees when the object preceding it is a personal pronoun:

**L'hanno vista** (referring to **la casa**, "the house"),

They have seen it.

It will be noticed that there is a good deal of laxity with regard to these rules. In the example quoted from the text **fissata** is feminine to agree with the direct object **una cámara**, which follows it.

9. **Potéi averne una**, "I was able to have one (of them)". Remember that when a numeral adjective stands after the verb without a noun, the pronoun **ne** must always be inserted. In this case the verb governing the numeral is in the infinitive, so the pronoun is joined to it to form one word.

10. **Troppo cara**, "too dear". As **troppo** is an adverb here, it is invariable. When an adjective it varies like all other adjectives: **troppe parole**, "too many words"; **troppa birra**, "too much beer". It can also be used without an accompanying adjective or noun: e.g. **mi ha dato troppo**, "he has given me too much".

11. **Destinava**, "he allotted", lit. "destined", is in the imperfect because the phrase in which it stands is used adjectivally: **che mi destinava** denotes which room is referred to.

The imperfect tense is formed as follows. In the 1st conjugation the endings **-avo** (or **-ava**), **-avi**, **-ava**, **-avamo**, **-avate**, **-ávano** are added to the stem; in the 2nd conjugation the initial vowel of these terminations is changed to **e** and in the



3rd to i. Examples:— **suon/avano**, “they played”; **cred évano**, “they believed”; **dorm/ivano**, “they slept”. Both the 1st and 3rd persons singular of the imperfect indicative formerly ended in **-a**, but the general tendency now is to make the 1st person end in **-o** and the 3rd in **-a**. This makes it easier to mark the distinction between the 1st and 3rd persons singular, without the aid of personal pronouns.

12. **Ordinò al facchino**, “ordered (gave orders to) the porter”. Note that the verb **ordinare**, “to order”, takes an indirect object of the person to whom the order is given.

A “*railway-porter*” is also called **facchino**.

13. **Valige**, “bags”, is the plural of the feminine word **valigia**. Nouns in **-gia** and **-cia** drop the **i** in the plural, provided it is not accented.

14. **Con l'ascensore**, “by the lift”. Italian also says **andare col treno**, “to go by (lit. with the) train”.

15. **Dopo aver attraversato**, “after going through” or “after I had gone through”. The infinitive is used because the subject of the principal and dependent clauses is the same (see Lesson 7, No. 26). When it expresses “after” followed by an English gerund, **dopo** must be used with a *perfect* infinitive (cf. Lesson 6, No. 37).

**Attraversato** is another example of doubling of the consonant after a prefix: **a+traversato=attraversato** (Lesson 8, No. 33).

16. **Lunghi corridói**, “long passages”. **Lunghi** is the plural of **lungo** with the addition of the letter **h** to preserve the hard sound of the **g**. **Corridói** is the plural of **corridoio**. Cf. **attizzatoio**, No. 9, Lesson 4.

17. **Sembrata**, “seemed”, is the past participle of **sembrare**, “to seem”, and is feminine to agree with **cámara**. This verb is conjugated with **essere**.

18. **Dà sul mare**, “overlooks the sea”, lit. “gives on the sea”. The verb is in the present tense, because the window of that room presumably still overlooks the sea. Note this idiom with **dare**, “to give”. **Le loro finestre danno sul giardino**, “their windows look out on to the garden”.

19. **Sono rimasto**, “I remained”. **Rimasto** is the past participle of the irregular verb **rimanere**, “to remain”, “to stay”, one of the many intransitive verbs which form their compound tenses with **essere**.

20. **Sono rimasto a lungo a godere**, “I remained a long time enjoying...” This is a characteristic Italian construction and should be carefully noted. An infinitive dependent upon a verb of motion or rest, or upon a verb denoting the beginning, progress, or continuance of an action is preceded by the preposition **a**, and this infinitive is usually rendered by an English

present participle. Cf. **Egli stette ad aspettare**, "he stood waiting"; **mia sorella è a cucire**, "my sister is sewing".

21. **Si danno**, "are given". The English passive is here replaced by the construction with **si**, which is preferred when the verb is in the 3rd person and the agent is not expressed. Notice the difference in the word-order of the Italian clause and its English equivalent.
22. **Ho passato**, "I spent". **Passato** is the past participle of the verb **passare**, which means "to spend" (of time) or "to pass". This verb is generally conjugated with the auxiliary **avere**, but when its past participle is used as a predicative adjective it is conjugated with **essere**. Cf. **essa ha passato trent'anni**, "she is over thirty" (lit. she has passed 30 years), and **il giorno è passato**, "the day is over".

### Conversation.

23. **Uno dei migliori della città**, "one of the best in the town". "In" after a superlative is always rendered by **di**, "of".
24. **Mangiava?**, "did you have your meals (lit. eat)?" The imperfect tense is here used to express habitual action.
25. **In camera**, "in my room". This is a "set" phrase which does not require either the possessive or an article.
26. **Quanto pagava al giorno?**, "how much did you pay a (per) day?" Remember that where in English the indefinite article is used in the sense of "per", the Italian preposition **a** with the definite article or the definite article alone is used: **egli guadagna due scellini l'ora**, "he earns two shillings an hour".  
Watch for instances of the imperfect tense in the Conversation to express habitual action in the past.
27. **Lo ricorda?**, "do you remember (it)?" **Ricorda** is the 3rd person singular, present tense, of the verb **ricordare**, "to remember". There is also a reflexive form of the verb which is followed by the preposition **di** before a direct object: **ricordo la mia gioventù**, "I remember my youth", but **mi ricordo di quello**, "I remember that".
28. **Non mi ricordo più**, "I don't remember now". Where English uses "not . . . now" in the sense of "no longer", Italian says **non . . . più**.
29. **Mi pare di aver pagato**, "I think I paid", lit. "to me it appears to have paid". As the subject of both clauses is the same, the infinitive is used to translate the corresponding English noun-clause (see No. 26, Lesson 7). **Parere**, "to appear", is followed by **di** before a dependent infinitive.
30. **Davvero**, "indeed", is formed from the preposition **da**, "by", and the adjective **vero**, "true", with doubling of the consonant after the prefix.

## Irregular verbs found in Lesson 9.

**Dirigere**, " to direct ".

*Past Participle* : **diretto**

*Past Def.* **diressi, dirigesti, diresse, dirigemmo, dirigeste, diréssero**

**Rimanére**, " to remain ".

*Past Participle* : **rimasto or rimaso**

*Pres. Indic.* : **rimango, rimani, rimane, rimaniamo, rimanete, rimángo**

*Pres. Subj.* : **rimanga, rimanga, rimanga, rimaniamo, rimaniate, rimángo**

*Past Def.* : **rimasi, rimanesti, rimase, rimanemmo, rimaneste, rimásero**

*Future* : **rimarrò, rimarrái, rimarrà, rimarremo, rimarrete, rimarranno**

*Conditional* : **rimarréi, rimarresti, rimarrebbe, rimarremmo, rimarreste, rimarrébbero**

**Salíre**, " to go up ".

*Pres. Indic.* : **salgo, sali, sale, sagliamo, salite, sálgono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **salga, salga, salga, sagliamo, sagliate, sálgano**

*Past Def.* : **salii or salsi, salisti, sali or salse, salimmo, saliste, salírono or sálsero**

## Lesson 10 (Alla Trattoria)

1. **In gran número**, "in great numbers".
2. **Caffè . . . osterie**. In such enumerations, where the words are used in an indefinite sense, the article may be omitted.
3. **Birrerie** is the plural of **birreria**, which, though originally a "brewery", has acquired the additional meaning of a kind of "public-house" where beer is the chief drink served.
4. **Per bère**, "to drink". The use of **per** indicates purpose and may be translated "in order to". See **per centellinàre**, **per passàre**, **per fàre**, etc., below.
5. **Un caffè**, "a (cup of) coffee". Compare the English phrases sometimes used when speaking to a waiter or waitress: e.g. "one coffee and two teas" for "one cup of coffee and two cups of tea".
6. **Bicchierino**, "little glass", is a combination of **bicchiere**, "glass", and the diminutive suffix **-ino**.
7. **Giucàre . . . alle carte**, "to play cards". The preposition **a** is inserted after **giucàre** before the name of the game played: **giucava al biliardo**, "he was playing billiards". The definite article may be omitted as in **giucàre a carte**, **a biliardo**, etc.
8. **Per fàre una partita al biliardo**, "to play a game of billiards", is literally "to make a game at the billiard(s)". **Biliardo** is always used in the singular; it may also be spelt **bigliardo**.
9. **Fuori**, "outside", as a preposition, is generally followed by **di** (sometimes **da**), except in certain "set" phrases, such as **fuori bordo**, "overboard"; **fuori giuoco**, "off-side" (in games); **fuori pericolo**, "out of danger".
10. **Tráffico**, "traffic" (in all its English meanings). The plural of this word is irregular. Nouns ending in **-co** form their plural in **-chi** if the stress is on the penultimate syllable, otherwise in **-ci**, but **tráffico** becomes **tráffichi**.
11. **Le persone che vanno e véngono**, "the passers-by", lit. "the people who are going and coming". "Passer-by" may also be rendered **passante**, which is really the verbal adjective from **passàre**.
12. **A prezzo fisso**, "at a fixed price", is another "set" phrase in which the article is omitted.
13. **Una minestra**, "a plate of soup". Cf. **un caffè** above.
14. **Una mancia del dieci per cento**, "a tip of (the) 10%." Note the use of the definite article before **dieci per cento**.
15. **Bisogna pagàre**, "one has to pay", lit. "it is necessary to pay". **Bisogna** is rarely translated literally; it is the equivalent of the English "must", but is only used in the 3rd person (cf. French *il faut*).

When **bisogna** is followed by an infinitive the pronoun is understood. Thus **bisogna andáre** (lit. it is necessary to go) may mean "I must go", "you must go" or "we must go", etc., according to the context. If there is a possibility of ambiguity, **bisogna** should be followed by the conjunction **che** (that) and the subjunctive: e.g. **bisogna che noi andiamo**, "we must go"; **bisogna che lei vada**, "you must go".

16. **Aumentato del dieci per cento**, "increased by 10%". Here again is a difference in the preposition used in the two languages. (See also No. 14 above).
17. **Viene soppressa**, "is done away with". The verbs **veníre**, "to come", and **rimanére**, "to remain", are sometimes used as auxiliaries in the simple tenses of the passive, instead of **essere**. **Rimase sorpreso**, "he was surprised"; **il soldato venne ferito**, "the soldier was wounded".
18. **Di prim'ordine**, "first-class", lit. "of first order". The final **o** of the adjective **primo** is dropped because it comes before a noun beginning with **o**.
19. **È consigliabile far riservare una tavola**, "it is advisable to have a table reserved". The first point to notice is that the adjective **consigliabile** is followed by a dependent infinitive without the intervention of a preposition.

**Far riservare** is an example of what is known as the *factitive* construction, which occurs very often in Italian and is rendered in English in various ways, but chiefly with the idea of having something done by somebody else: e.g. **fa costruire una casa**, "he is having a house built"; **fece legare questo libro**, "he had this book bound"; **farò punire quel ragazzo**, "I will have that boy punished". In such sentences the English past participle is always rendered by the infinitive in Italian and this infinitive comes immediately after the verb **fare**. Further examples of the use of **fare** are as follows: **fa andare la macchina**, "he sets the machine going"; **fanno venire il medico**, "they send for the doctor".

### Conversation.

20. **Vogliamo mangiare?**, "shall we dine?", lit. "do we wish to dine (eat)?" Cf. **vuole che prendiamo?**, "shall we take?", in Lesson 8, No. 36.
21. **Carta**, "menu". An alternative rendering is **lista** or **lista delle vivande**, lit. "list of dishes".
22. **Dateci . . . ordinano**. The customers use the familiar form of the verb (2nd pers. pl. imperative) and the waiter the polite form (3rd pers. pl. pres. indic.).

23. **Dell'antipasto . . . del salame . . . dei maccheroni . . . del pollo . . . del tacchino . . . della frutta.** The use of the partitive article referred to in Lesson 3, No. 7, is well illustrated in this lesson.
24. **E come carne?**, lit. "and as meat?", the meaning being "what kind of meat would you like?"
25. **Spinaci**, "spinach". Note that this word is always used in the plural in Italian.
26. **Bistecca ai ferri**, "grilled steak". **Bistecca** is simply an Italianized form of the English word "beef-steak". **Ferro**, in the singular, means "iron" and, in the plural, "chains", "fetters", etc., but it also appears in a number of idiomatic phrases with special meanings. In the phrase now being dealt with **ferri** refers to the bars of the grill. Note also **venire ai ferri**, "to come to the point".
27. **Préndono dopo del caffè?**, "are you going to take coffee after?" The immediate future is here expressed by the present tense. A little later we have the future tense itself in **berranno** (also written **beranno**). Note the position of the adverb **dopo**, which is placed after the verb, according to rule.
28. **Uva**, "grapes", is always singular in form. **Uva passa** or **uva secca**, "raisin"; **uva spina**, "gooseberry"; **un grappolo d'uva**, "a bunch of grapes."
29. **Mi raccomando che sia**, "please see that it is". **Raccomandarsi** is used idiomatically in the sense of "to beg", "to entreat" and when followed by **che** requires its dependent verb to be in the subjunctive (here **sia**). Note also the following use of this verb: **Fatelo presto, mi raccomando**, "please do it soon", "don't forget to do it soon".
30. **Stravecchio**, "very old", is formed from the prefix **stra-** and the adjective **vecchio**, "old". The prefix **stra-** emphasizes the meaning of the word to which it is affixed. It corresponds to the English "extra-" (same derivation) or "over-", etc. Cf. **straordinario**, "extraordinary"; **stravaganza**, "extravagance"; **stracontento**, "overjoyed"; **stracotto**, "overdone" (of cooked food); **straripare**, "to overflow".
31. **Settantacinque lire e dieci**, "seventy-five lire and ten (centesimi)". The word **centesimi** is usually understood, just as "shillings" and "pence" often are in English: e.g. "three and four" for "three shillings and fourpence."
32. **Biglietto . . . da cento lire**, "a hundred-lire note". Here is another instance of the use of **da**. Note also **dieci francobolli da settantacinque centesimi** (Lesson 12, Part 2), "ten stamps

the verb (2nd pers. pl. imperative) and the waiter the polite form (3rd pers. pl. pres. indic.).

### **Irregular verbs found in Lesson 10.**

**Bére or bévere, " to drink ".**

*(The regular forms of this verb are based on bévere. Its irregular forms are given below).*

*Past Def. :* bevvi, bevesti, bevve, bevemmo, beveste, bévvero

*Future :* berrò, berrái, berrà, berremo, berrete, berranno

*Conditional :* berréi, berresti, berrebbe, berremmo, berreste, berrébbbero

**Compréndere, " to understand ", " to include ".**

Like sospéndere, Lesson 4.

**Fríggere, " to fry ".**

Like léggere, Lesson 1.

**Sopprimere, " to suppress ".**

*Past Participle :* soppresso

*Past Def. :* soppressi, sopprimesti, soppresse, sopprimemmo, sopprimeste, soppréssero

## Lesson 11 (Il Viaggio — Alla Stazione)

1. **Undicésima**, "eleventh". Except in the case of the first ten, ordinal numbers are formed by dropping the final vowel of the corresponding cardinal numerals and adding **-ésimo** (fem. **-ésima**). The stress is on the syllable before the penultimate. From "eleventh" on there are also the alternative forms **décimo primo** (11th), **décimo secondo** (12th), etc.
2. **Viaggio** means "travelling" of any kind. If it is necessary to distinguish between "voyage" and "journey", one can render the former by **viaggio per mare**, **passaggio** or, in the case of a "crossing" direct from one country to another, **traversata** (see Lesson 18). **Un viaggio per terra o mare**, "a journey by land or sea".
3. **Le automóbili, i piróscafi, gli aeroplani**, "motor-cars, steamers, aeroplanes". Note the use of the definite article before nouns denoting a whole class. The implication is that *all* cars, steamers and aeroplanes are means of locomotion, otherwise the partitive article would have been used. Cf. **ci sono delle automóbili a due posti**, "there are two-seater cars", in which only a *part* of a class is dealt with, those cars which seat two people, but there are other cars for more than two people.
4. **Ferrovía**, "railway", is made up of the word **ferro**, "iron", and **via**, "way".
5. **Viaggiatori . . . viaggiatrici**, "(male) travellers . . . (female) travellers". There are a number of nouns ending in **-tore**, which have a feminine equivalent in **-trice**: e.g. **genitore**, "father", **genitrice**, "mother"; **direttore**, "manager", **direttrice**, "manageress".
6. **Una quantità di persone corre**, "a number of people are running". Here the verb is in the singular to agree with the noun **quantità**, but in cases like this where the subject of the sentence is a collective noun with a partitive noun in the plural dependent upon it, the verb is often found in the plural. **Una folla di pellegrini si avvicinávano**, "a crowd of pilgrims drew near".
7. **Ode**, "hears", is the 3rd person singular, present tense, of the irregular verb **udíre**, "to hear". Note the change of initial vowel in this tense of the verb: **odo, odi, ode, udiamo, udite, ódono**.
8. **Dalla quale il suo treno partirà**, "from which your train leaves" (lit. will leave). The future tense is generally used in Italian when it is a question of an event yet to take place and if the use of the present would lead to ambiguity. In this case, for instance, the train is not leaving at the moment of speaking,



- but it *will leave* at the scheduled time, so the verb is put in the future tense. (See also Lesson 17, No. 26).
9. **Ferroviano** is the adjective derived from the compound noun **ferrovía**, "railway". New words may often be formed by adding a different termination to a word already in existence: e.g. **ordinario**, "ordinary", from **ordine**, "order"; **consuetudinario**, "customary", from **consuetudine**, "custom". Compare also **bosco**, "wood", **boschivo**, "woody"; **gloria**, "glory", **glorioso**, "glorious", etc.
  10. **L'ufficio d'informazioni**, "information bureau". The **i** of **di** is usually dropped before another **i**. Where the following noun begins with any other vowel either **di** or **d'** can be used.
  11. **Capostazione**, "station-master". **Capo**, "head", "chief", is the first component of a number of compound nouns, all of which are masculine and most of which denote persons who occupy the chief position in a particular branch of work: e.g. **capocuoco**, "head-cook"; **capobanda**, "bandmaster"; **capoparte**, "party-leader". Among the nouns of this kind which do not denote persons are **capolavoro**, "masterpiece", and **capoluogo**, "county-town".
  12. **Piano terreno**, "ground floor", can also be written in one word as in Lesson 7, viz. **pianterreno**.
  13. **Il treno è guidato da un macchinista**, "the train is driven by an engine-driver". Here the agent is expressed (**da un macchinista**) so the passive form of the verb and not the reflexive is used.
  14. **Macchinista . . . fuochista**, "engine-driver . . . stoker". Remember that the plural of these masculine nouns ending in **-a** is **-i**.
  15. **Essi sono al loro posto**, "they are at their post(s)". In such sentences where a noun is used in a distributive sense with reference to two or more people, English uses the plural and Italian the singular of the noun. **Tutti alzarono la mano**, "they all raised their hands"; **i soldati portavano la lancia**, "the soldiers carried spears".
  16. **Salgono nel treno**, "(they) get (up) into the train". **Salgono** is the 3rd person plural, present indicative, of the irregular verb **salire**, "to rise", "to go up".
  17. **Sportelli** here refers to the "doors" of the train.
  18. **Esce dalla stazione**, "leaves (or goes out of) the station". **Esce** is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the irregular verb **uscire**, "to go out (of)". The present tense of this verb is as follows: **esco, esci, esce, usciamo, uscite, escono**. It may be followed by **da** or **di** (see Lesson 2, No. 32).

19. **Gli amici ed i parenti rimasti sulla piattaforma**, "the friends and relatives left on the platform". **Rimasti** is the past participle, masculine plural, of the irregular verb **rimanére**, "to remain", "to stay". **Rimasto** may also be used in the sense of "left (over)", as in the following phrases: **che cosa è rimasto?**, "what is left?"; **non ne è rimasta una goccia**, "there is not a drop left".
20. **Addio**, "good-bye", is formed from the preposition **a**, "to", and the noun **Dio**, "God", which doubles the initial consonant after the prefix. When expecting to see one's friends again shortly, the farewell greeting is **arrivederci**, approx. "till we meet again". Cp. French *au revoir*.
21. **Ai partenti**, "to those leaving". **Partenti** is an example of a verbal adjective used as a noun. (See No. 45, Lesson 1).

### Conversation.

22. **Alle venti e quindici**, "at 8.15 p.m." When indicating the times of trains on the Continent, it is usual to continue counting after twelve noon to twenty-four. The times coming between midnight, which is **24**, and 1 a.m. are indicated by **0**. Thus **0.25** below means 12.25 a.m. and 12.25 p.m. would be **12.25**.
23. **Quello delle 0.25**, "the 12.25 a.m." or "the one at 12.25 a.m.".
24. **Cercate per me un buon posto**, "find me a good seat", lit. "look for for me a good seat". The verb **cercáre** means "to look for" and takes a direct object without the intervention of a preposition.
25. **Fate caricáre il mio bagaglio**, "have my luggage put on the train", is another instance of the use of the *factitive* construction already referred to in Lesson 10, No. 19.
26. **Corro . . . e ritorno**, "I (will) run . . . and come back". Once more we have the present tense to express an action about to take place in the immediate future.
27. **Voi intanto andate**, "in the meantime you go". The use of the pronoun **voi** is for emphasis.
28. **Eccole**, "here it is", lit. "here they are". The pronoun **le** is feminine plural to agree with its antecedent in the previous line, **lire**.
29. **Bisogna attraversáre**, "you must go through". It is obvious from the context that the person referred to is "you" (see Lesson 10, No. 15). Compare the rendering of **attraversáre** here with that in **attraversáre i binari** below, "to cross the lines".
30. **Sta per partíre**, "is about to leave", "is on the point of leaving". (See No. 44, Lesson 8).

31. **Due lire l'una**, "two lire each", lit. "two lire the one". Note this construction with a noun used in a distributive sense. Cf. **cento lire il paio**, "a hundred lire a pair"; **sei cento lire il mese**, "six hundred lire a month".
32. **Questo per voi**, "this (is) for you". The verb *è* is understood.
- 

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 11.

**Udire**, "to hear".

*Pres. Indic.* : **odo, odi, ode, udiamo, udite, ódono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **oda, oda, oda, udiamo, udiatè, ódano**

**Uscire**, "to go out".

*Pres. Indic.* : **esco, esci, esce, usciamo, uscite, ésono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **esca, esca, esca, usciamo, usciatè, éscano**

## Lesson 12 (L'Ufficio Postale)

1. **Nelle grandi città**, "in large towns". The definite article is used because we are speaking about large towns in general (cf. Lesson 11, No. 3).
2. **Borghi**, "market-towns". **Un borgo** was originally a collection of houses without a surrounding wall, usually just outside a city wall. It is sometimes used now as an alternative to **sobborgo**, "suburb", or to denote "a country-town".
3. **Comuni**, "parishes", can also be spelt **communi**. The **comune** was a self-governing body of citizens and, by extension of meaning, the word has come to denote an administrative area somewhat like the English "parish".
4. **Fino nei più piccoli villaggi**, "to the smallest villages". **Fino ai...** would have meant "as far as..."; **fino nei** implies bringing the letters right *into* the villages (cf. No. 45, Lesson 8).
5. **Entriamo... in**, "let us enter". This is the imperative, not the present indicative (cf. Lesson 2, No. 27).
6. **Dietro i quali**, "behind which". **Dietro** may be followed *directly* by the word it governs, as in this case, or it may interpose the preposition **a** (**dietro AI quali**, Lesson 19, Part 1); sometimes even **di** or **da** are found after **dietro**.
7. **Altrettanti**, "as many", the meaning being "exactly the same number of".
8. **Iscrizione**, "inscription". When a prefix is added to a word, thus forming an integral part of that word, it often undergoes a change. No absolute rules can be given for such modification, but it is interesting to note certain tendencies. Thus, **in**, **con** and other prefixes terminating in **n**, sometimes change the **n** to **m**, especially before **b**, **p** and **m**: e.g. **impressione**, "impression"; **combattere**, "to combat". Where the **n** is followed by several consonants, particularly groups like **scr** and **str**, it frequently disappears altogether: e.g. **istruire**, "to instruct"; **coscrizione**, "conscription".
9. **Telegrammi**, "telegrams", is the plural of **telegramma**, one of the words ending in **-a** that are masculine (see Lesson 1, No. 4).
10. **Che si vogliono spedire**, "that one wishes to send". Note that the verb is in the plural to agree with **telegrammi**.
11. **Raccomandate** is the past participle (fem. pl.) of the verb **raccomandare**, "to recommend", "to register (letters)". It is feminine plural to agree with **lettere**, "letters", which is understood.
12. **Cassa di risparmio**, "savings bank". The original meaning of **cassa** was "box" or "chest", but when people ceased keeping

- their savings in chests it acquired the additional meaning of "bank". The same word is also used for "cash": e.g. **conto cassa**, "cash-account".
13. **Somme di danaro anche piccole**, "even small sums of money". Note the word-order and the use of **anche** for "even". **Danaro** is also written **denaro**, as at the end of this paragraph.
  14. **Firme in posta**, "Poste Restante". Like **raccomandate** (see above), **ferme** is feminine plural to agree with **léttere** understood. The literal meaning of **fermo** is "still", "steady", "fixed", as in **star fermo**, "to stand still"; **fermo propósito**, "steady purpose", etc. It has, however, a number of idiomatic meanings: e.g. **acque ferme**, "stagnant waters"; **punto fermo**, "full stop".
  15. **Per un certo periodo di tempo**, "for some time", lit. "for a certain period of time". The meaning of the adjective **certo** varies with its position. If it precedes the noun it qualifies it signifies "some"; if it follows, it denotes "authentic", "positive", etc.: e.g. **certe cose**, "certain (or some) things"; **morte certa**, "certain death"; **notizia certa**, "certain (authentic) news".
  16. **Vaglia postali**, "postal-orders". **Vaglia** is an invariable noun.
  17. **Coloro che**, "those who". **Coloro** is a demonstrative pronoun equivalent to **quelli** or **quelle** when referring to persons only. In the singular it has the forms **colui** (masc.) and **colei** (fem). **Chi è colui?**, "who is that man?" **Parlo di colei**, "I am speaking of that woman". **Colui che**, "he who", can be replaced by the simple **chi**: e.g. **chi (colui che) lavora è felice**, "he who works is happy".
  18. **Per imbucare**, "for posting". As already stated, **per** indicates "for the purpose of". Like all prepositions it must be followed by the infinitive, not the gerund. **Imbucare** is formed from the preposition **in** (see No. 8 above) and the noun **buca**, "hole" or "box" (as in **buca delle lèttere**, "letter-box"), so it really means "to put into the box".

### Conversation.

19. **Ne troverà uno**, "you'll find one (of them)". Note also **lei può trovarNE** (in the text below), "you can find *some*", and compare with No. 29, Lesson 2.
20. **Mi dia**, "give me". According to the rule set forth in No. 27, Lesson 5, a pronoun that is the object of a verb in the positive imperative should follow the verb and be joined to it to form one word. This, however, does not apply to the subjunctive used as an imperative. **Dia** is the 3rd person, present sub-

- junctive, of **dare**, "to give", this being the form always used for the "polite" imperative.
21. **La prego**, "please", lit. "I beg you". **Prego** is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the verb **pregare**, "to pray", "to beg", etc. To express "please", it may be used with a personal pronoun, as here, or without, as in the next sentence.
  22. **Qual'è**, "what is". Note the elision of the **e** in **quale** before another **e**.
  23. **Per l'estero**, "for abroad". **Éstero**, as a noun, is usually translated "abroad"; it means "foreign countries" in a collective sense. In this use it is always preceded by the definite article. Note the following examples: **andare all'estero**, "to go abroad"; **venire dall'estero**, "to come from abroad"; **all'interno ed all'estero**, "at home and abroad". The adjective **éstero** means "foreign"; **política éstera**, "foreign policy".
  24. **È di una lira**, "it is one lira . . .", lit. "it is of one lira". The phrase **éssere di** in expressions of this kind denotes "to stand at", but is often rendered in English by the simple verb "to be". Cf. **il cambio è di novantadue . . .**, "the exchange stands at ninety-two . . ."
  25. **Vorréi spedire**, "I want to send", "I should like to send". **Vorréi** is the 1st person singular, conditional tense, of the irregular verb **volere**, "to wish".
  26. **Quel pacchetto**, "that packet". When used as an adjective, **quello** has forms similar to the definite article: **quello, quel, quella, quell'**; pl. **quegli, quei, quelle**. Examples: **quello specchio**, "that mirror"; **quell'uomo**, "that man"; **quegli alberi**, "those trees"; **quei fiori**, "those flowers".
  27. **In mano**, "in your hand", is a "set" phrase used without article or possessive adjective.
  28. **Per la Francia**, "for France". As a rule, the name of a continent, country, province or large island is preceded by the definite article: e.g. **la Svizzera è più piccola della Francia**, "Switzerland is smaller than France". After the prepositions **di** and **in**, however, the article is omitted, provided that the name of the country, etc., is feminine, ends in **-a** and is not qualified by an adjective. In the case of **di**, the preposition and noun must also be equivalent to an adjective of nationality. E.g. **andiamo in Italia**, "we are going to Italy"; **sono nella bella Toscana**, "they are in beautiful Tuscany"; **le donne del Canada**, "the women of Canada"; **il vino di Spagna**, "the wine of Spain (Spanish wine)"; **il re d'Inghilterra**, "the King of England (English king)".
  29. **Arriverà in Francia**, "it will arrive in France". The subject of **arriverà** is **léttera**. (See also previous note).

30. **Se lei desidera che la sua lettera arrivi**, "if you want your letter to arrive", lit. "if you want that your letter arrives". Remember that unless the subject of the principal clause is the same as that of the dependent clause (see No. 26, Lesson 7), the infinitive is not generally used in the dependent clause in Italian. The use of the subjunctive (**arrivi**) is due to the fact that the verb in the main clause expresses a wish.
31. **Lei farà bene a spedirla**, "you had better (lit. you will do well to) send it". Cf. **fareste bene** (or **meglio**) **a rimanere qui**, "you had better stay here".
32. **Con la posta aerea**, "by air mail", lit. "with the air mail" (see No. 14, Lesson 9).
33. **Prima**, lit. "before", can here be rendered "sooner", "earlier".
34. **Vicino allo . . .**, "near the . . ." Note that, when a word that can be either preposition or adverb, is used as a preposition, it is often followed by another preposition (usually **di** or **a**, sometimes **da**) before the word it qualifies: e.g. **davanti ALLA casa**, "before (in front of) the house"; **prima DI parlare**, "before speaking"; **fuori DELLA camera**, "outside the room"; **dietro A lui**, "behind him". Some words are always followed by the same preposition, others may be followed by **a**, **di** or **da** according to choice.

---

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 12.

**Corrispondere**, "to correspond".

Like **rispondere**, Lesson 2.

**Riscuotere**, "to collect (money)".

*Past Participle*: **riscosso**

*Past Def.*: **riscossi, riscotesti, riscosse, riscotemmo, riscoteste, riscóssero**

*Note*: When the accent does not fall on the **o**, the letter **u** may be omitted: e.g. **riscotendo** for **riscuotendo**; **riscotiamo** for **riscuotiamo**, etc.

## Lesson 13 (Le Stagioni)

1. **La primavera.** "Spring". Note that *l'estate*, "Summer", is also considered feminine in modern Italian.
2. **La natura,** "nature". The definite article must be used before all abstract nouns used in a general sense. When, however, the abstract noun is used with a preposition to form an adjectival or adverbial phrase, the article is omitted.
3. **Gli alberi mettono le foglie,** "the trees put on leaves", that is, they are clothed or covered with leaves. Cf. **(si)mette il cappello,** "he puts on his hat".
4. **Diventa più verde,** "becomes greener". From the adjective **verde** is formed a series of verbs that can be used as alternatives to **diventár verde**, "to become green": e.g. **verdeggiáre, verdi-cáre, avverdíre.** There are a number of verbs formed from adjectives in this way. Note, for instance, **rosseggiáre, arrossíre** and **arrossáre**, all formed from **rosso** and all meaning "to become red".
5. **Fa caldo,** "it is hot". The verb **fáre**, "to make", is used in this and in similar expressions dealing with the weather, where English has "to be". Cf. **fa freddo,** "it is cold", in the last paragraph of the Description. Speaking of people, the verb **avére** is used and of things **éssere**. Note carefully the following examples: **col freddo che fa,** "in this cold weather", lit. "with the cold that it makes"; **ho freddo,** "I am cold"; **ho freddo alle mani,** "my hands are cold"; **l'acqua è fredda,** "the water is cold".
6. **Senza una núvola,** "without a single cloud". The use of **una** is emphatic; it is the numeral "one" that is employed, not the indefinite article "a". The indefinite expression "without a cloud" or "cloudless" would be **senza núvole**, lit. "without clouds".
7. **Canicola,** "dog-days". **Canicola**, also written **canícula**, is really the name given to what is popularly termed the "dog-star" and, by extension, to that time of the year when this particular star rises and sets with the sun, that is, during part of July and August. It is also used for the whole constellation of which the dog-star forms the principal part. The phrase **avére le canícole** is a familiar expression for "to be cross".
8. **Stando ALL'ombra,** "(by) keeping in the shade". Cf. **un posto AL sole,** "a place in the sun"; **ALL'aperto** (Lesson 15), "in the open air".
9. **Alcune settimane di vacanza,** "a few weeks' holiday", lit. "some weeks of holiday".



10. **Montagna** may mean a single mountain, a group of mountains or a mountainous district. When preceded by **in** it follows the same rule as **campagna** (Lesson 7, No. 22).
11. **Della caccia e della pesca**, "of hunting and fishing". Italian often uses a noun in an abstract sense, preceded by the definite article, where English prefers a gerund.
12. **Fa meno caldo**, "it is not so hot". The English negative comparative "not so . . ." is frequently replaced in Italian by the positive comparative **meno**, "less". **Meno bene**, "not so well"; **questo vestito è meno caro**, "this coat is not so dear".
13. **Si fa la vendemmia**, "grapes are gathered", lit. "one does the gathering of the grapes": Note the word-order.
14. **Rossastre**, "reddish", is the feminine plural of **rossastro**, which is made up of the adjective **rosso**, "red", and the suffix **-astro**, the latter being equivalent to the English termination **-ish**. Almost any adjective of colour can take this suffix after dropping its final letter: e.g.

**grigio**, "grey"; **grigiastro**, "greyish"  
**verde**, "green"; **verdastro**, "greenish".

15. **Come si sta bene**, "how comfortable one is." Remember that after the exclamation **come** the order of words is the same as in the positive sentence (see No. 24, Lesson 5).

### Conversation.

16. **Ventotto**, "twenty-eight". In compound numerals between 20 and 90, the final vowel of the first component drops before a following numeral beginning with a vowel: **ventuno**, "twenty-one", but **ventinove**, "twenty-nine".
17. **Che tempo fa?**, "what is the weather like?", lit. "what weather is it?" (Cf. No. 5 above).
18. **Un tempo magnifico**, "splendid weather". Note the addition of the indefinite article before an abstract noun qualified by an adjective.
19. **Tanto caldo**, "so hot". Before a noun **tanto** must be translated "so much" or "so many". **Tanto bello**, "so beautiful", but **tanto burro**, "so much butter", **tante donne**, "so many women".
20. **Bruciata dal sole e della siccità**. **Bruciata**, the past participle (fem.) of the verb **bruciare**, may mean "scorched" (by the sun) or "parched" (by the lack of moisture). Thus this phrase would be rendered in English "scorched by the sun and parched by the drought". The preposition "by" after **bruciare** can be rendered by **da** or **di**.

21. **Lampi.** "Lightning" can be translated **lampo** (sing.) or **lampi** (pl.). **Lampo** also means a "flash of lightning".
22. **Piove a dirotto**, is an idiomatic expression meaning "it pours in torrents". **Dirotto** is the past participle of **dirómpere**, "to soften", "to slacken", "to break" or "to burst" (of tears, laughter, etc.). **Dirompe in lágrime**, "she bursts into tears"; **pianto dirotto**, "flood of tears"; **pioggia dirotta**, "pelting rain".
23. **Che fa tanti danni**, "which does so much damage". Note the use of **danni** in the plural, indicating damage of different kinds.
24. **Ámano passáre**, "(they) like to spend", "are fond of spending". The verb **amáre** has no preposition between it and a dependent infinitive.
25. **Clima**, "climate", is another noun ending in **-a**, which is masculine.

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 13.

**Cadére**, "to fall".

*Past Def.* : **caddi, cadesti, cadde, cademmo, cadeste, cáddero**

*Future* : **cadrà, cadrái, cadrà, cadremo, cadrete, cadranno**

*Conditional* : **cadréi, cadresti, cadrebbe, cadremmo, cadreste, cadrébbéro**

**Compiére or compíre**, "to accomplish".

(All but the present from the stem of **compíre**)

*Past Participle* : **compito or compiuto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **compio, compi, compie, compiamo, compite, cómpiono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **compia, compia, compia, compiamo, compiate, cómpiano**

**Diveníre**, "to become".

Like **veníre**, Lesson 2.

**Divídere**, "to divide".

Like **sorrídere**, Lesson 2.

## Lesson 14 (Esercizi Ginnastici e Giuochi)

1. **Ginnásticos**, "gymnastic", is the plural of **ginnástico**, which has its plural in **-ci** because the stress is not on the penultimate syllable (see No. 23, Lesson 5).
2. **Le prime**, "the former", lit. "the first", is feminine to agree with **ragazze**, "girls". (See also No. 13, Lesson 3).
3. **Nascondiglio**, "hiding-place", here indicates the game of "hide-and-seek". The word is derived from **nascóndere**, "to hide".
4. **I secondi**, "the latter", lit. "the second", that is, **i ragazzi**, "the boys", with which it agrees in gender and number.
5. **Saltamontone**, "leap-frog", is derived from the verb **saltáre**, "to jump", and the noun **montone**, "sheep".
6. **Quattro cantoni**, "puss-in-the-corner", lit. "four corners".
7. **Giúcano con una palla**, "play with a ball". In the previous phrases **giúcano a piè zoppo**, **a nascondiglio**, etc., the preposition **a** is used because a *definite* game is being played, but here we have **con** because the boys are simply amusing themselves *with* a ball. If they had been playing a particular game of ball, the phrase would have been **giúcano alla palla**, corresponding to the English "they are playing ball".
8. **Vediamo questi ragazzi . . . giuocáre**, "we see these children . . . playing". After **fáre**, "to make", "to cause", **sentíre**, **udíre**, both "to hear", and **vedére**, "to see", the infinitive is used in Italian to render an English present or past participle: e.g. **si fa capíre**, "he makes himself understood"; **l'abbiamo sentito díre**, "we have heard it said"; **lo vèdo córrere**, "I see him running".
9. **Pieni di vita**, "full of life". The definite article is omitted before an abstract noun used with a preposition to form an adjectival phrase (cf. Lesson 13, No. 2). Here, for instance, **di vita** is equivalent to **vivaci**, "lively"; **pieni di vita**, "very lively". But **la lotta per LA vita**, "the struggle for life".
10. **Giucó del pallone**, "football", is also called **giucó del calcio**. **Pallone** means "large ball", being an augmentative of **palla**, and **calcio** means "kick".
11. **Ha preso maggiore sviluppo**, "has become more general", lit. "has taken greater development".
12. **Reso**, "made", "rendered", is the past participle of the irregular verb **réndere**, "to render".
13. **Il "rugby" . . . il "tennis" . . . la "boxe" . . .** Note the use of the definite article before all these names of games.
14. **Campioni**, here "champions", also means "samples", "patterns" (see Lesson 24).



26. **Discretamente** here signifies "fairly well", "moderately", but sometimes has the original meanings of "discreetly", "prudently".
27. **Tiro . . . di scherma**, "I fence", is an idiom, the literal meaning of which is "I draw of fencing". There is also the verb **schermare** (or **schermire**), "to fence".
28. **Sono assai lontano dall'essere**, "I'm very far from being". The English gerund preceded by a preposition, which is a *necessary* part of the thought, is rendered in Italian by an infinitive with the definite article. The article must, however, be omitted (unless it would be used in English) after the following prepositions: **di** (of), **dopo di** (after), **invece di** (instead of), **prima di** (before), **senza** (without).
- Ha l'abitudine di parlare senza riflettere**, "he is in the habit of speaking without thinking", but
- Parlò contra il fumare**, "he spoke against smoking".
- For method of translating the gerund where the preposition preceding it is *not* a necessary part of the thought, see note on **entrando** No. 11, Lesson 7.
29. **Assistetti ad**, "I was present at". **Assistetti** is the 1st person, past definite tense, of the verb **assistere**, which can mean "to assist", but more often "to be present". The verb "to assist" is usually rendered by **aiutare**.
30. **Nella quale corse anche lei**, "in which *you* also ran". The position of the pronoun **lei** at the end of the sentence is emphatic.
31. **Invece**, lit. "instead", here means "on the other hand"

---

#### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 14.

**Assistere**, "to be present".

*Past Participle* : **assistito**

*Past Def.* : **assistéi** or **assistetti**, **assistesti**, **assistè** or **assistette**, **assistemmo**, **assisteste**, **assistérono** or **assistéttero**

**Produrre**, "to produce"

Like **condurre**, Lesson 7.

**Rendere**, "to render".

Like **sospendere**, Lesson 4.

## Lesson 15 (Le Vacanze in Campagna)

1. **NOTE.**—The first part of this lesson is based on the use of the imperfect tense, already referred to at the beginning of Lesson 9. Here it is chiefly used to express habitual action: e.g. **andavo sempre**, "I always went", "I always used to go"; **io stavo**, "I used to stay", "I would stay"; **i cavalli nitrivano**, "the horses neighed", etc.
2. **Quando ero ragazzo**, "when I was a boy". The indefinite article is omitted before a predicative noun provided the latter is not modified by an adjective or an adjectival phrase. Such nouns usually express condition, occupation, rank or nationality. **Siete marinaio?**, "are you a sailor?" **Sono medico**, "I am a doctor". **Egli è tedesco**, "he is a German". But **confesso di non essere un buon marinaio** (Lesson 18), "I confess that I am not a good sailor".
3. **Con mio zio**, "with my uncle". The definite article is omitted because the possessive adjective qualifies a noun denoting relationship. In the next phrase, **con i suoi contadini**, it is inserted as usual.
4. **Assistere ai loro lavori**, "to be present at their work (i.e. while they were working)". Do not be tempted to translate "to assist in their work", which idea is expressed in the next verb, **aiutarli**, "to help them". (Cf. **assistetti**, No. 29, Lesson 14).  
**Lavori** is used in the plural to denote the several kinds of work in which the men on the farm were engaged. Apart from this, however, there are a number of phrases formed with **lavori** where English would have the singular: e.g. **lavori forzati**, "hard labour".
5. **Una volta**, "once", here indicates "once upon a time", "formerly".
6. **Venivano usati**, "they were used". **Essere** is once more replaced by **venire** to express the passive. It should be noted that the past participle agrees with its subject just as it would if conjugated with **essere**.
7. **Lavorare la terra**, "to till the land". Note this special meaning of **lavorare** in connection with land. The usual signification is, of course, "to work".
8. **I porci**, "the pigs". This is the irregular plural of **porco**. For the rule see No. 10, Lesson 10.
9. **Come diventava rumorosa la fattoria**, "how noisy the farm became". Where the subject of the exclamation is a noun, not a pronoun, it usually comes at the end of the sentence.

10. **Era giunta**, "had come", "had arrived", is the 3rd person singular, pluperfect tense, of the verb **giungere**, "to arrive". This tense is used to express an action anterior to the period in the past with which we are concerned. Here, for instance, the sequence of events is as follows: first, the time at which the animals were fed and, secondly, as a result, the noise in the farmyard. The rule is that when the tense used to indicate the later event (i.e. the one nearer in time to the speaker) is imperfect, the tense for the earlier one must be pluperfect. This rule is not strictly observed in English and we can quite well render **era giunta** by "came" or "arrived".

**Giunta** comes from an intransitive verb conjugated with **essere**, not **avere**. **Siamo giunti**, "we have arrived"; **eravamo giunti**, "we had arrived".

11. **Si dava da mangiare a tutti questi animali**, "all these animals were fed", lit. "one gave to eat to all these animals". The verb "to feed" is not always easy to translate into Italian. As an intransitive verb it is usually best rendered by **mangiare**, "to eat": e.g. "to feed out of someone's hand" is **mangiare dalla mano di . . .** As a transitive verb it must be turned by a phrase similar to that quoted above. Cf. **dare l'avena ad un cavallo**, "to feed a horse", lit. "to give oats to a horse".
12. **Oche**, "geese". Feminine nouns in **-ca** form their plural in **-che**, the **h** being inserted to preserve the hard sound of the **c**. Masculine nouns in **-ca** and **-ga** also have this **h** in the plural: e.g. **monarca**, "monarch", pl. **monarchi**; **collega**, "colleague", pl. **colleghe**.
13. **Viti**, "vines". Note that this word is feminine: **la vite, le viti**. It also means "screw", as in **chiudere a vite**, "to screw down".
14. **A me piacciono**, "I like". After a preposition the disjunctive pronoun **me**, not the conjunctive **mi**, should be used (No. 27, Lesson 5). **A me** is more emphatic than **mi**. Cf. **gli piace la cucina italiana**, "he likes Italian cooking", but **a lui piace la cucina francese**, **però a lei piace la cucina inglese**, "he likes French cooking, but she likes English cooking".
15. **Lamponi**, "raspberries", is one of the few names of fruits of masculine gender.

### Conversation.

16. **La casa dove si abita**, lit. "the house where one lives", could here be rendered "the farm-house", of which the nearest equivalent in Italian is **casa colónica**.

17. **Ci dà**, "gives (to) us". The pronoun **ci** does not vary, whether it is used as direct or indirect object or as a reflexive pronoun : e.g. **ci vede spesso**, "he often sees us"; **ci alziamo alle sei**, "we get up at six o'clock".
18. **Hanno una grande importanza**, "are of great importance", lit. "have a great importance". The indefinite article is inserted before the abstract noun **importanza** because the latter is qualified by an adjective.
19. **Dell'uomo**, "of man". **Uomo** denotes humanity in general and like all nouns used in a general sense must be preceded by the definite article. Cf. **l'uomo propone ma Dio dispone**, "man proposes, God disposes".
20. **Anche il porco**, "the pig too". **Anche** precedes the noun it qualifies whereas in English its equivalent "too" or "also" follows.
21. **Sia per la carne . . . ed anche per i suoi peli (sétole)**, "whether for meat . . . and also for its hair (bristles)". This use of "whether . . . and" for "whether . . . or" (**sia . . . sia**) is only possible in colloquial speech.
22. **Che cosa produce ancora la fattoria ?**, "what else does the farm produce?" Note this use of **ancora** in the sense of "else".
23. **Uova**, "eggs", is feminine in the plural although masculine in the singular, **uovo**. Cf. **braccio** and **paio** already mentioned.
24. **Che si pórtano**, "which are taken". The English verb "to take" is not always rendered by the same verb in Italian. When it means "to carry (from one place to another)", **portáre**, not **préndere** should be used : e.g. **prendete le mie valige**, "take my luggage", but **portate le valige alla mia cámara**, "take the luggage to my room". With the meaning "to accompany", it is generally translated **condúrre**, lit. "to lead" : e.g. **lo condurrò in un albergo** (Lesson 17), "I shall take him to a hotel".  
 "To take", followed by a dependent preposition, is nearly always rendered in Italian by a verb without preposition : e.g. "to take off", **tógliere** ; "to take up", **solleváre** ; "to take from", **tógliere**, **dedúrre**.
25. **A véndere**, "to be sold", lit. "to sell". In constructions of this kind where English uses an infinitive in the *passive* voice Italian often has an *active* infinitive preceded by the preposition **a**.
26. **Lo si porta**, "it is taken". In this impersonal construction the object-pronoun may precede **si**. Cf. **lo si mácina** in the next line.



27. **Fornaio**, "baker", is derived from the noun **forno**, "oven", and the suffix **-aio**, which is often equivalent to the English termination **-er** in words like "miller", "butcher", etc. Words with this ending denote persons who make or are associated with certain objects or who follow a certain occupation: e.g. **stagnaio**, "tinker", from **stagno**, "tin"; **operaio**, "labourer", "workman", from **opera**, "work".
- 

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 15.**

**Giungere**, "to arrive".

*Past Participle* : **giunto**

*Past Def.* : **giunsi, giungesti, giunse, giungemmo, giungeste, giunsero**

**Ottenere**, "to obtain"

Like **tenere**, Lesson 2.

## Lesson 16 (In Riva al Mare)

1. **In riva al mare** is a "set" phrase equivalent to the English "at the seaside".
2. **Qualche settimana**, "a few weeks". Remember that **qualche** is always followed by the singular (see No. 12, Lesson 5).
3. **Centinaia**, "hundreds", like **uovo** and **paio**, is feminine in the plural and masculine in the singular (**centinaio**).
4. **Stazioni balneari**, "watering places", "bathing resorts". **Balneari** is the plural of **balneare**, but there is another form of this adjective, viz. **balneario**.
5. **La maggior parte**, "the greater part." When **maggiore** precedes a noun the final **e** is usually dropped unless the following word begins with a vowel, **z** or impure **s**.
6. **Che si sono spogliati**, "who have undressed". All reflexive verbs are conjugated with **essere** in their compound tenses and the past participle therefore agrees in gender and number with the subject of the sentence.
7. **Che hanno indossato il loro costume da bagno**, "who have put on their bathing-costumes" (cf. No. 15, Lesson 11). The verb **indossare** means "to put on" of clothes only. It is derived from the preposition **in** and the noun **dosso**, "back", so it signifies "to put on one's back".
8. **Vestiti**, "dressed", is the past participle, used adjectivally, in the plural, of the verb **vestire**. The regular method of forming the past participle of verbs of this conjugation is to add **-ito** to the stem: e.g. **finire**, "to finish", **finito**; **capire**, "to understand", **capito**.
9. **Stanno lì a guardare**, "(they) stay there looking at. . .". We have already drawn attention to this construction in No. 20, Lesson 9.
10. **Fino ai ginocchi**, "up to *their* knees". The definite article is employed instead of the possessive adjective because the reference is to a part of the body. In addition to the regular plural above, **ginocchio** has an irregular plural **ginocchia**, which is feminine. This form is generally used when denoting the knees of a single person. **Tiene il bambino sulle ginocchia**, "she is holding the child on her lap" (lit. on the knees). **Giacqui con le ginocchia contratte**, "I lay with my knees drawn up".
11. **Ritornano a casa**, "(they) return home". When "home" is governed by a verb expressing motion towards, the Italian equivalent, **casa**, must be preceded by the preposition **a**. "I am going home", **vado a casa**; "I shall take her home", **la condurrò a casa**.

12. **Con la pelle abbronzata**, "with their skin(s) tanned", is another instance of the definite article replacing the English possessive adjective.

### Conversation.

13. **È stato lei qualche volta?**, "have you ever been?", lit. "have you been sometimes?" In interrogative phrases of this type **qualche volta** is often used as an alternative to **mai**. It comes after the past participle in a compound tense whereas **mai** would come between the auxiliary and the past participle, viz. **è mai stato?**, "have you ever been?"
14. **Mi sento assai meglio**, "I feel much better". When "to feel" has a direct object it is rendered by **sentire**, otherwise by the reflexive **sentirsi**. Study the following phrases: **sento il freddo**, "I feel the cold"; **mi sento onorato**, "I feel honoured"; **sentiva odio per . . .**, "he felt hatred for . . ."; **si sentì un altro uomo**, "he felt a different man".
15. **Una piccola cittadina**, "a tiny little town". **Cittadina** is itself a diminutive and means "a little town", so the addition of the adjective **piccola** is tautology. It is deliberately used for the sake of emphasizing the smallness of the town.
16. **Al Lido**, "to the Lido". The word **lido** is not restricted to the fashionable resort near Venice, but may be used for any "seashore" or "beach".
17. **Certo**, though adjectival in form, here means "certainly" and takes the place of the regular adverb **certamente**.
18. **Io ho bisogno di**, "I need". The English verb "to need", used with a personal subject, is generally rendered by one of the two *impersonal* verbs **occorrere** and **abbisognare**, or by **bisogno** used in conjunction with **avere**: e.g. "*I* need it", **mi occorre**, **mi abbisogna** or **ne ho bisogno**.  
The pronoun **io** is added for emphasis: "*I* need".
19. **Non potrei godere**, "I could not enjoy". In translating the English verb "could" one should remember that the same word expresses both the past indicative and conditional tenses and therefore one must make sure which is the correct tense before translating the verb into Italian. Where "could" means "should be able", the conditional must be used: e.g. **benchè cercassi molto tempo, non potèi trovarlo**, "although I searched for a long time, I could not (was not able to) find it"; **se fossi ricco, potrei comprare un'automobile**, "if I were rich I could (should be able to) buy a car".
20. **Per lo meno**, "at least", has an alternative **almeno**, but the former may express a stronger shade of meaning: "at the very least". Note the use of **lo** instead of **il**, for the sake of

euphony. The only other expression in which this occurs is **per lo più**, "for the most part".

21. **L'incontráre . . . il sentíre . . . il vedére**, "meeting . . . hearing . . . seeing", are more examples of the infinitive with the definite article, which is such a frequent way of rendering the English gerund.
22. **Francesi, Tedeschi, Inglesi, Spagnuoli**, "Frenchmen, Germans, Englishmen, Spaniards". Proper nouns denoting nationality are now usually written with a capital initial letter.
23. **Il sentíre parláre diverse lingue**, "hearing different languages spoken". (Cf. No. 8, Lesson 14).
24. **Lei ha ragione**, "you are right", lit. "you have reason", is one more instance of the use of **avére** where English has "to be".
25. **A me piace la calma**, "I like quiet". **A me** is the emphatic form of **mi** (see No. 14, Lesson 15). **Calma** is preceded by the definite article because it is an abstract noun used in a general sense.
26. **Fresco**, "freshness", "fresh air", is an adjective used as a noun. Cf. **la bella**, "the beautiful woman"; **i buoni**, "the good (people)".
27. **Fáre dei bagni**, "to go bathing". Note that the word **bagno** means either "bath" or "bathe", and the phrase **fáre un bagno** "to have a bath" or "to have a bathe". The plural **bagni** usually signifies "bathing (in the sea, etc.)".
28. **Approvo i suoi, ma conservo i miei**, "I approve of yours, but keep mine". A possessive pronoun cannot always be distinguished in form from a possessive adjective. **Questi libri sono i vostri** (pronoun), "these books are yours"; **i vostri** (adjective) **libri sono sulla távola**, "your books are on the table". (See also Lesson 5, No. 32).
29. **Dove vado io**, "where I go". The personal pronoun is often placed after the verb for the sake of emphasis.
30. **A pochi chilómetri**, "a few kilometres away". The preposition **a** is used in phrases denoting distance: **ábita a dieci miglia da qui**, "he lives ten miles off (lit. from here)".
31. **Qualche colpo di fucile**, "a few gun-shots". The word **colpo** is widely used in Italian to indicate the sudden action of an implement, natural agent, etc.: **un colpo di fiamma**, "a tongue of flame"; **un colpo di fortuna**, "a stroke of luck"; **un colpo di vento**, "a gust of wind"; **un colpo da maestro**, "a masterly stroke".

32. **La notte**, " at night ". (Cf. **la sera**, No. 1, Lesson 6).

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 16.**

**Distrarre**, " to amuse "

*Pres. Participle* : **distraendo**

*Past Participle* : **distratto**

*Pres. Indic.* : **distraggo, distrái, distráe, distraiamo or distraggiamo, distraete, distrággono**

*Pres. Subj.* : **distragga, distragga, distragga, distraiamo or distraggiamo, distraiate, distrággano**

*Imp. Indic.* : **distraevo, distraevi, distraeva, distraevamo, distraevate, distraévano**

*Imp. Subj.* : **distraessi, distraessi, distraesse, distraéssimo, distraeste, distraéssero**

*Past Def.* : **distrassi, distraesti, distrasse, distraemmo, distráeste, distrássero**

**Frangere**, " to break "

Like **giungere**, Lesson 15.

**Vivere**, " to live ".

*Past Participle* : **vissuto or vivuto**

*Past Def.* : **vissi, vivesti, visse, vivemmo, viveste, vissero**

## Lesson 17 (Una Visita a Venezia)

1. **Vacanze**, "holidays". When this word is used in the singular and is not the subject of a sentence, the article is generally omitted: e.g. **hanno vacanza** (Lesson 3), "they have a holiday"; **va in vacanza**, "he is going on holiday (or for his holiday)".
2. **Andrò**, "I shall go" or "I am going". Remember that the Italian future tense not only corresponds to the English future tense but may also render the present continuous tense when the latter is used with a future meaning. Cf. **Partiremo per Roma il 10 novembre**, "we are leaving for Rome on November 10th".
3. **Con un amico inglese**, "with an English friend". An adjective of nationality is always written with a small initial letter.
4. **Al nostro arrivo**, "on our arrival".
5. **Canal Grande**, "Grand Canal". **Grande** is emphatic—we are speaking of the *Grand Canal*, not any other canal—so it comes after the noun. **Un gran canale** would mean simply "a large canal".
6. **Al mondo**, "in the world".
7. **Una gondola**, "a gondola". The gondola, a long narrow boat with peaked ends, was formerly a much more magnificent affair than it is nowadays. In the centre was an awning of rich materials, often embroidered in gold. After a sumptuary edict of the 16th century, however, black was made compulsory and the gondola has remained black ever since. The **gondoliere** stands in the stern (**la poppa**) facing the bow (**la prua**) and propels the gondola with a single oar (**un remo**). There is a low cabin for passengers called **il felze**. The iron "beak" at the bow is **il ferro**.  
 Since the latter part of the 19th century the gondolas have been largely superseded owing to the introduction of steamers running between the railway station, St. Mark's and the neighbouring islands.
8. **Sembrano uscire**, "seem to emerge". (Cf. No. 36, Lesson 7).
9. **Che sono di un'architettura perfetta**, lit. "which are of an architecture perfect", might be rendered "which are architecturally perfect" or "the architecture of which is perfect". Note the insertion of the indefinite article before an abstract noun qualified by an adjective.
10. **Ponte di Rialto**, "Rialto Bridge". This is one of the many historic bridges to be found in Venice. The original bridge was made of wood and was carried on pontoons. In the 13th century it was rebuilt, but was still of wood; it was carried on beams and could be raised in the middle. The present

bridge dates from 1588-91 and is peculiar from the fact that it has shops on either side.

The numerous canals of Venice can be crossed not only by bridges but also by ferries, called **traghetti**.

11. **Santa Maria della Salute**, "Saint Mary of Salvation", gets its name from the fact that it was erected as a thank-offering to the Virgin Mary for staying a plague that broke out in the city in 1630. Note again the use of the definite article before an abstract noun.
12. **Nei giorni seguenti**, "in the following days". Remember that the English present participle has two forms in Italian. When it is an adjective the form in **-ente** (**-ante** for the 1st conjugation) must be used and this takes the termination **-i** in the plural like other adjectives in **-e**.
13. **Ca' d'Oro**, lit. "house of gold", so called because of the prevalence of gold in its ornamentation. **Ca'** is an abbreviation of **casa**.
14. **Di Venezia**, "in Venice", the preposition **di** being used after the superlative. Cf. No. 23, Lesson 9, and **di Europa** below.
15. **Il palazzo Ducale**, "the Ducal Palace", also called **il palazzo dei Dogi**, "the palace of the Doges", was the official residence of the head of the Venetian Republic. The original building, a few remains of which are still to be seen, dates back to the early part of the 9th century. From the 9th to the 12th century the Ducal Palace was frequently destroyed and rebuilt. The present building was begun in the 13th century, but most of what we see now belongs to the 16th century. At present, the magnificent council chambers and the state apartments of the Doges are used as an Art Gallery for the display of oil paintings by Tintoretto and others.
16. **Vaporetto**, "steamerboat", is the diminutive of **vapore**, "steamer".
17. **La Giudecca** gets its name from the fact that it was formerly inhabited by the Jews (**giudèo**, "Jew", "Jewish"), who had two synagogues there. These were, however, destroyed in the last century. At present, the island is noted chiefly for the **Chiesa del Redentore** (Church of the Redeemer) which, like the **Santa Maria della Salute**, was built as a votive-offering for the stopping of a plague in 1537. In that year many of the inhabitants tried to escape the contagion of the disease by taking refuge in little barges all along the Giudecca Canal. In memory of this a festival is held every year on the third Sunday in July. A bridge of boats connects the church with Venice itself and there is a continuous procession of people, including representatives of the Municipality, visiting the church. That day and night the island is *en fête*, many people spending the whole night on the Canal in barges lit by Chinese lanterns and whiling away the time with singing and music.

## Conversation.

18. **Laggiù**, "over there", "down there", is made up of the adverbs **là**, "there", and **giù**, "down".
19. **A fianco**, "at the side".
20. **Nel 1512**, "in 1512". In dates the definite article precedes the number representing the year, provided that that number does not follow the name of a month: e.g. **il primo febbraio 1924**, "February 1st, 1924". Note that, with the exception of the first, cardinal numbers are used for the days of the month: e.g. **il cinque maggio**, "May 5th".
21. **Ciò fu**, "this was". **Ciò** is equivalent to the English "this" or "that" used in a neuter sense to represent a whole idea; it is invariable and can never refer to persons. **Questo** and **quello** can also be used in this way: e.g. **non dica quello**, "don't say that"; **questo non mi riguarda**, "this doesn't concern me".
22. **In istile veneziano-gotico**, "in Venetian-gothic style". The word for "style" is **stile**, but an **i** is prefixed because the word comes after **in**. After **con**, **in** and **per** a word beginning with an impure **s** often takes an initial **i**. This is chiefly because Italians find it difficult to pronounce three consecutive consonants of which the middle one is **s**.
23. **Dalla Siria**, "from Syria" (see No. 28, Lesson 12).
24. **Dal 15° al 18° secolo**, "from the 15th to the 18th century". In these abbreviations of the ordinal numbers **quindicésimo** and **diciottésimo** the **8** represents the final letter. Compare the figures at the heading of each lesson; e.g. **Lezione Diciassettesima (17<sup>a</sup>)**, in which the final letter is **a**.
25. **I famosi quattro cavalli di bronzo**, "the famous four bronze horses". These horses, each six feet in height, were originally gilded and belonged to the Arch of Nero in Rome, from whence they were taken by the Emperor Constantine and carried off to Constantinople. In 1204 the Doge Enrico Dandolo, having conquered the city, brought the horses to Venice as a trophy and they were set up over the central portal of St. Mark's. In 1797 Napoleon Bonaparte took them to Paris, but in 1815 they were once more restored to Venice.
26. **Quando ritorneremo**, "when we (shall) return". The future tense is employed in Italian in subordinate clauses referring to the future and introduced by **se**, "if", or a conjunction of time. **Se avrò del denaro, comprerò una casa**, "if I (shall) have some money, I will buy a house".
27. **Ricchissima di tesori**, "exceedingly rich in treasures".
28. **Lei non può immaginare quante... vi siano**, "you can't



imagine how many . . . there are". Verbs expressing uncertainty, such as verbs of doubting, disbelieving, supposing, thinking, etc., are followed by the subjunctive.

29. **Pópolo**, "people". This word is only used in the sense of "people" when the latter refers to a body of citizens, etc., a "race" or a "nation". On the other hand, if "people" signifies "persons", "individuals", the correct rendering is **gente** (fem. sing.) or **persone** (fem. pl.). Note, for instance, the following: **vi è molta gente** or **vi sono molte persone**, "there are many people"; **basso pópolo**, "mob", "lower orders"; **il pópolo italiano**, "the Italian people".
30. **República Véneta**, "Venetian Republic". The *city* of Venice is **Venezia**, but the province is **il Véneto**, and these proper names have corresponding adjectives. Thus, when referring to anything "Venetian", a distinction must be made between what concerns the city (i.e. **veneziano**) and what the province (i.e. **véneto**).

## Lesson 18 (Una Traversata)

1. **Fra poco**, "soon", "in a short time", lit. "in little", stands for **fra poco tempo**.
2. **A bordo**, "on board" (see Lesson 3, No. 40).
3. **Per l'America**. Here is an instance of the name of a continent being preceded by the definite article, as noted in No. 28, Lesson 12. In the next paragraph we have **che vanno in America** "who are going to America", where the article is omitted after the preposition **in**. Observe that "to" before the name of a continent or country is always rendered by **in**, not **a**, wherever motion towards is implied.
4. **Augurárgli buon viaggio**, "to wish (to) him a good voyage (*bon voyage*)". This is a "set" phrase in which the indefinite article before **buon viaggio**, is omitted. **Augurare** has also the older meaning of "to augur", "to portend", just as **augurio** in the text below means "omen" as well as "(good) wishes": **uccello del mal augurio**, "bird of ill omen".
5. **L'ancora**, "the anchor". In this word the stress is on the first syllable, whereas in the adverb **ancora** (previous line), which has the same spelling, the stress falls regularly, that is, on the penultimate syllable.
6. **Ponte** usually means "bridge", but on board ship it stands for "deck". The "bridge" of a ship is **ponte di comando** (see text below).
7. **Passeggieri di terza classe**, "third-class passengers". Note the construction with **di** to form what is in English a compound adjective (see No. 5, Lesson 4).
8. **I più**, "most", "the greater number". As always, the definite article must be made to agree with the noun to which it relates, here **passeggieri**. Cf. **Vede quelle bambine? Le più sono troppo giovani per andare a scuola**, "Do you see those little girls? Most of them are too young to go to school". When speaking of the majority of people in general, the masculine plural is used: e.g. **i più credono che . . .**, "most people think that . . ."
9. **Con la speranza**, "in the hope".
10. **Di far fortuna**, "of making *their* fortunes". Remember that the final **e** of an infinitive is often dropped.  
No article is needed in the expression **far fortuna**, "to make a fortune", unless the noun **fortuna** is qualified: e.g. **fece una gran fortuna**, "he made a large fortune".
11. **Tutti sono appoggiati al bastingaggio**, "they are all leaning (lit. leant) on the rail". A number of Italian verbs, chiefly pronominal verbs expressing attitudes of the body, are used in

Italian in the past participle denoting the *state* where English has the present participle denoting the *action*. Included among such verbs are **appoggiarsi**, "to lean", **inginocchiarsi**, "to kneel", **sedersi**, "to sit", etc.

Examples:— **Il nonno è seduto** (Lesson 1), "the grandfather is sitting".

**È inginocchiato ai piedi della madre**, "he is kneeling at his mother's feet".

12. **Addì**, "farewells", has double *i* in the plural because the *i* in the singular is stressed: **addìo**.
13. **Passeggia su e giù per il ponte di comando** "walks up and down the bridge". Note the addition of the preposition **per** in the Italian. In such phrases it has the idea of "along", "about". Cf. **Gironzò per la strada**, "he strolled along the street".
14. **Gru**, "crane". With the exception of **sopra più**, "surplus", and a few foreign words, nouns ending in **-u** are feminine.
15. **Il carico**, "the cargo". The plural of this word is irregular. Although the stress does not fall on the penultimate syllable, the final **-co** becomes **-chi** in the plural.
16. **Ritirano la passerella**, "they take away the gangway". Note the various meanings of the verb **ritirare**: e.g. **ritirò il deposito dalla banca**, "he withdrew the deposit from the bank"; **hanno ritirato quella legge**, "they have repealed that law"; **ritira l'ordine**, "he revokes the order".
17. **Ad un tratto**, "suddenly". The noun **tratto** has here the sense of "stroke", but it can be translated in many different ways. In No. 35, Lesson 8, for instance, the meaning given was "distance". Note also **a grandi tratti**, "with bold and rapid strokes" (figuratively); **tratto d'eroismo**, "heroic deed"; **tratti gentili**, "pleasing manners"; **tratto di tempo**, "period of time".
18. **Intorno al pir scafo**, "round the steamer". As a preposition **intorno** is followed by **a** (sometimes **di** or **da**), which is here combined with the definite article. Cf. **intorno alla città**, "around the city".
19. **Grido**, "shout". This noun has a regular plural **gridi**, which is generally restricted to the cries of beasts, and an irregular plural **grida** (fem.), which is more usual. **Grida di gioia**, "shrieks of merriment"; **domandare ad alte grida**, "to demand in a loud voice".
20. **Augurio**, "good wishes" (see also No. 4 above), is frequently used in the plural as in English. **Gradite i miei auguri pel capo d'anno**, "accept my best wishes for the New Year".
21. **Rimangono ancorati**, "are anchored". The verb **rimanere**, like **venire**, is sometimes used as an auxiliary in the simple tenses of the passive, instead of **essere** (cf. No. 17, Lesson 10).

principal clause. conditional  
Conversation

22. **Contento di rimettere il piede a terra**, "pleased to set foot on land again". Note the use of **a**, **per** or **in terra** for "to the ground", "on the floor", etc. **Cadde per terra**, "he fell to the ground"; **andarono a terra**, "they went ashore", "they landed"; **guardò in terra**, "she looked down"; **con gli occhi chinati a terra**, "with downcast eyes".

23. **Deliziosa**, "delightful". The same word in Italian is used for "delicious": e.g. **questa frutta è deliziosa**, "this fruit is delicious".

24. **Mosso**, "ruffled", lit. "moved", is the past participle of the verb **muovere**, "to move".

25. **Se lei si fosse trovato**, "if you had been", lit. "if you had found yourself". Here we have an example of the subjunctive in a conditional clause. The rules for conditional or *if*-clauses are as follows:—

When a condition is contrary to present fact or implies doubt as to an event in the future, the conditional clause has the past subjunctive and the principal clause the conditional tense: e.g. **se avessi quel libro, ve lo darei**, "if I had that book, I should give it to you" (but I haven't got it); **se fosse qui domani, la vedrebbe**, "if he should be here to-morrow, he would see you" (but it is doubtful that he will be here). When the conditional clause refers to past time, the past perfect subjunctive is used and the principal clause is in the perfect conditional: e.g. **se avessi avuto quel libro, ve l'avrei dato**, "if I had had that book, I should have given it to you".

In all other cases, for instance, where the event denoted by the principal clause arises naturally from the realisation of the supposition in the dependent clause, both clauses are in the indicative: e.g. **se lo fece, sarà punita**, "if she did it, she will be punished"; **se viene, dategli questo libro**, "if he comes, give him this book".

26. **Nella quale mi son trovato io**, "in which I was". The final **o** of **sono** (1st person singular or 3rd person plural) and of the 3rd person plural of other verbs is often dropped, chiefly for the sake of euphony: e.g. **parlan di loro**, "they are speaking of them". Note also the position of the pronoun after the verb in order to emphasize it.

27. **Allora sì avrebbe sofferto**, lit. "then, yes, you would have suffered", may be rendered "then you would certainly have suffered".

28. **Onde alte quasi come una montagna**, "waves almost as high as a mountain", lit. "waves high almost as a mountain". The English forms of comparison "as...as", "so...as" are

expressed by **così** . . . **come** or **tanto** . . . **quanto**, but **così** and **tanto** may be omitted. **Maria è alta quanto Anna**, "Mary is as tall as Anne"; **essa è così ricca come lui**, "she is as rich as he is". Note that in the last example the verb is not repeated in the Italian as it is in the English.

29. **Confesso di non essere** . . . , "I confess that I am not . . ." Note again the use of the infinitive where the subject of both clauses is the same.

30. **Via**. The most usual meanings of this adverb are "away", "off": e.g. **va via!**, "go away", "be off!"; **gettár via**, "to throw away". Sometimes it cannot be translated, at other times the context and intonation will indicate the correct rendering. **Via! non temere**, "come! don't be afraid"; **non c'è male, via!**, "it's not so bad, after all!"

31. **Vidi . . . che andava**, "I saw . . . which was going". Here we have a good instance of the past definite (**vidi**) used as a narrative tense and the imperfect (**andava**) as a descriptive.

32. **Torpediniera**, "torpedo-boat". Cf. **cacciatorpediniera**, "destroyer", in which the prefix **caccia** comes from the verb **cacciare**, "to chase", "to hunt".

33. **Avrebbe dovuto essere**. "you ought to have been". Note the difference in construction between the Italian and English phrases. In the English the tense is expressed by the dependent infinitive, in the Italian by the auxiliary. In cases like this, the proper form of **volere**, **potere** or **dovere** can be found by replacing "will", etc., by the correct tense of "to like"; "can", etc., by "to be able"; "must", etc., by "to be obliged", as in the following examples:—

He would have stayed = he would have (**avrebbe**) liked (**voluto**) to stay (**restare**).

I could have done it = I should have (**avrei**) been able (**potuto**) to do it (**farlo**).

We ought to have seen him = we should have (**avremmo**) been obliged (**dovuto**) to see him (**vederlo**).

34. **Hanno niente di dazio?**, "Have you anything to declare?" lit. "have you anything of duty (i.e. dutiable)?" The expression **di dazio** here stands for an adjective indicating "dutiable".

35. **Bisognerà mostráre**, "we shall have to show", lit. "it will be necessary to show". The context makes it clear to whom the reference is, although the construction is impersonal (see No. 15, Lesson 10).

36. **Una ventina**, "about twenty", "a score or so". Nouns of number in **-ina** are **decina**, **ventina**, **trentina**, **quarantina**, **cinquantina**, **sessantina**, **settantina**, **ottantina** and **novantina**. Similar in use but not in form are **centinaio** and **migliaio**. They

all denote an approximate number : e.g. **una trentina**, "about thirty", "thirty, more or less", "thirty or so". **Dozzina** usually denotes an exact number. "dozen" : e.g. **véndere alla dozzina**, "to sell by the dozen".

37. **Camicie**, "shirts", retains the **i** in the plural termination to avoid confusion with **il camice**, "the alb". See Lesson 9, No. 13.
- 

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 18.

**Muóvere**, "to move".

*Past Participle* : **mosso**

*Past Def.* : **mossi, movesti, mosse, movemmo, moveste, móssero**  
(See also note to **riscuótere**, Lesson 12).

**Riméttre**, "to put again".

Like **méttre**, Lesson 3.

**Soffríre**, "to suffer".

Like **apríre**, Lesson 2.

## Lesson 19 (I Grandi Magazzini)

1. **Magazzini**, "stores", "shops". The use of **magazzino** for "shop" is due to French influence; its original Italian meaning is "warehouse", "magazine". The most usual word for "shop" in Italian is **negozio**; **bottega** is also employed, but to a lesser extent than formerly.
2. **Sale per la vendita**, "rooms for the selling", that is, "rooms in which goods are sold".
3. **Può**, "you can". The pronoun understood is **lei**.
4. **Un suo reparto**, "a department of its own".
5. **Delle volte**, "sometimes". This meaning can also be rendered by **qualche volta** or **talvolta**.
6. **Uno solo**, "a single one". Being used as a pronoun **uno** is not abbreviated.
7. **Alla caccia dell'occasione**, "in search of bargains" (lit. the bargain). The student will have already observed how often the English preposition "in" is rendered by **a**: e.g. **a bassa voce**, "in a low voice"; **al sole**, "in the sun"; **a Londra**, "in London", etc. The phrase **alla caccia di** is synonymous with **alla ricerca di** in the next line.  
 Note this special use of the word **occasione** for "bargain". Cf. **prezzo di vera occasione** (in the Conversation), "real bargain price". The usual meaning of **occasione** is "occasion", "opportunity": e.g. **approfittò dell'occasione**, "he availed himself of the opportunity".
8. **A buon mercato** is the equivalent of the English word "cheap", whether used as an adjective or an adverb. **Mercato** here has the idea of "bargain", but its chief meaning is "market". In the comparative and superlative of **a buon mercato** it is the adjective **buon** that varies: e.g. **a miglior mercato**, "cheaper". Cf. French *bon marché*, *meilleur marché*, etc.
9. **Novità**, which is here translated "new season's goods", means anything new, such as new publications, new plays, etc. **Mi piace leggere tutte le novità**, "I like to read all the new books", "I like to read everything new that comes out". Referring to some comedy or drama, one could say: **Ha visto l'ultima novità?**, "Have you seen the new play?" **L'ultima moda**, "the latest fashion", can also be rendered **l'ultima novità**.
10. **Prima del Natale**, "before Christmas". When "Christmas" is considered as a season of the year, the word **Natale** is generally preceded by the definite article, but where it is used adjectivally in combination with the preposition **di**, the article is omitted. **Giorno di Natale**, "Christmas Day"; **vigilia di Natale**, "Christ-

mas Eve". But **Come ha passato il Natale?**, "How did you spend Christmas?" The expression "merry (or happy) Christmas" is **buon Natale**.

11. **Gl'impiegati**, "the employees". The final **i** of **gli** is dropped because the following noun begins with **i**. It is always inserted before other vowels.
12. **Stanchi morti**, "dead tired". Similar phrases indicating superlative degree are: **pieno zeppo**, "crammed full"; **ritto impalato**, "as stiff as a poker", "bolt-upright"; **magro stecchito**, "as thin as a lath". The principal word precedes the qualifying word.
13. **Affaroni**, "splendid business", "profitable business", is the plural of **affarone**, which is made up of **affare**, "business", and the augmentative suffix **-one**. Note also the similar expression **affari d'oro** (Conversation), the literal meaning of which is "golden business".
14. **Merletti**, "lace", is plural because it comprises all the different kinds of lace. In Lesson 15, No. 4, we referred to **lavori**, which denoted the different kinds of work in which the farm-labourers were engaged. This use of the plural is quite frequent in Italian. Compare the use of **ori** (pl. of **oro**, "gold") in the following sentence to denote a "collection of gold ornaments": **Maria si è messa i suoi ori**, "Mary has put on her gold ornaments".
15. **Cerca di attirare**, "tries to attract". **Cerca** is the 3rd person singular, present indicative, of the verb **cercare**, "to look for" "to seek", "to try". When followed by a dependent infinitive it takes the preposition **di**. **Cercarono per mare e per terra**, "they searched high and low (lit. by sea and by land)"; **cercò di trovare la borsa**, "he tried to find the purse".
16. **Non risparmiar spese**, "does not spare expense", "spares no expense". Note that the word "expense" is here rendered by a plural noun in the Italian, but the singular form (**spesa**) can also be used. Cf. **con poca spesa**, "at little expense"; **a proprie spese**, "at one's own expense".
17. **Catàloghi**, "catalogues". Nouns ending in **-go** regularly form their plural in **-ghi** to keep the hard sound of the **g**.
18. **A contanti**, "for cash". **Contanti** stands for **denari contanti**, and is the verbal adjective from **contare**, "to count".
19. **Ben conosciuto**, "well known". In these expressions with "well", such as "well done" (**ben fatto**), "well earned" (**ben meritato**), etc., the final **e** of **bene** is usually dropped, unless the following word begins with a vowel, **z** or impure **s**: e.g. **bene scritto**, "well written"; **bene inteso**, "well meant".



## Conversation.

20. **Fare delle spese**, “(to) do some shopping”, lit. “to make expenses”.
21. **L'anno scorso**, “last year”. When “last” means the most recent, the one before the present, **scorso** is used, but when it implies coming after all others, the corresponding equivalent is **último**: e.g. **proprio fino all'último momento**, “to the very last moment”; **dicembre è l'último mese dell'anno**, “December is the last month of the year”; **il mese scorso andái a Roma**, “last month I went to Rome”.
22. **Ebbi**, “I had”, is the 1st person singular, past definite, of **avére**. This tense is employed because the time in the past is exactly stated, viz. **l'anno scorso**. Cf. **avevo** below, where the imperfect is used to indicate a more indefinite time.
23. **Avréi potuto fare**, “I should have—been able—to do”, i.e. “I could have done”. (Refer to No. 33, Lesson 18).
24. **Impermeábili** is an adjective meaning “impermeable” or “tight” with the meaning the latter has in the expressions **impermeábile all'aria**, “air-tight”; **impermeábile all'acqua**, “water-tight”. It is here used for **soprábiti impermeábili**, “raincoats”, “mackintoshes”, which is itself an abbreviated form of **soprábiti impermeábili all'acqua**, “water-tight coats”.
25. **Il reparto dei guanti**, “the glove-department”. An Italian noun can rarely be used in apposition with another noun thus forming what is in English a compound noun. To get the same effect it is usually necessary to introduce a preposition: e.g. **servizio da tavola**, “dinner-service”; **borsetta a mano**, “hand-bag”; **prezzi di costo**, “cost-price”; **modelli di Parigi**, “Paris models”.
26. **Per quindici giorni**, “for a fortnight”. In Italian a two weeks' span is termed “fifteen days”, just as a week is sometimes referred to as “eight days” (**otto giorni**).
27. **In liquidazione**, “to be cleared”, “at clearance prices”. **Véndita di liquidazione**, “clearance sale”. **Liquidazione** also has the meaning of the English word “liquidation”, “winding up”. There is a corresponding verb **liquidáre**, “to liquidate”, “to settle”, etc.: e.g. **liquidáre gli affari di una casa**, “to wind up the affairs of a firm”.
28. **Paglie**, “straws”, is used for **cappelli di paglia**, “straw hats”.
29. **Se lei darà**, “if you (will) give”. (See No. 26, Lesson 17).
30. **Tutto ciò che**, “all that”, lit. “all that which”. In indirect questions the neuter **che, cosa, che cosa** become **quel che** or **ciò che**. Note, for instance, **cosa ha fatto?**, “what has he done?”; **mi dice quel che ha fatto**, “he is telling me what he has done”.

31. **Tutto ciò che avrà comprato**, "all that you have (lit. will have) bought". The articles have not yet been bought, so Italian cannot use the perfect tense **ha comprato**.
- 

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 19.**

**Offrire**, "to offer".

Like **aprire**, Lesson 2.

**Provvedere**, "to provide".

Like **vedere**, Lesson 2.

**Ridurre**, "to reduce".

Like **condurre**, Lesson 7.

**Spendere**, "to spend".

Like **sospendere**, Lesson 4.

---

*Note* : On the record of Lesson 19, students will notice evidences of Tuscan pronunciation. In Tuscany, and occasionally in some other parts of Italy, **c** and **g** followed by **e** or **i**, are sometimes pronounced like the "sh" in "ship" and the "si" in "vision" respectively. The student should keep to the usual pronunciation.

## Lesson 20 (Il Tabaccaio)

1. **Sono . . . di monopolio**, “(they) are . . . a monopoly”, lit. “(they) are . . . of monopoly”, that is, they are in the state of monopoly. Another way of expressing the same idea would be to use the plural: **sono monopoli**, “they are monopolies”.
2. **È questi**, “the latter is”. Note the order, due to the emphasis laid on **questi**. (See also No. 13, Lesson 3).
3. **Dal tabaccaio**, “at the tobacconist’s” or “at the tobacconist’s shop”. The preposition **da** can be used with a noun denoting a person owning or managing a shop to express motion towards or being at the shop itself: e.g. **era dal cappellaio**, “he was at the hatter’s”; **andrò dalla modista**, “I shall go to the milliner’s”; **dal macellaio si compra carne**, “at the butcher’s one buys meat”.
4. **Carta bollata**, “stamped paper”. This paper, which can be bought at any Post Office or tobacconist’s, has the government stamp (**bollo**) already impressed upon it. It is used for deeds, certificates, petitions, etc., that have to be brought before a public authority.
5. **Oggetti**, “objects”, “articles”. This word and its synonym **articoli**, when combined with another noun by means of the preposition **di**, often correspond to an English word ending in *-ware*: e.g. **oggetti di rame**, “copperware”; **articoli di vetro**, “glassware”; **articoli di porcellana**, “chinaware”.
6. **Vetrina**, “shop-window”, “show-window”. The ordinary window is **finestra**, the window of a railway-carriage, **finestrino**, and that of a booking-office, **sportello**.
7. **Carta asciugante**, “blotting-paper”. One can also say **carta sugante**. **Asciugante** and **sugante** are verbal adjectives from the verbs **asciugare** and **sugare** respectively. Both verbs mean “to dry”. (Cf. **asciugamani**, Lesson 6, No. 19).
8. **Spaccio di sali e tabacchi**, “tobacco-shop”, lit. “sale (or shop) of salts and tobaccos”. Here again we have the plural to denote several kinds of the same class of article. This shop, for instance, sells various grades of salt and different brands of tobacco. The word **spaccio** can also signify “despatch”.

### Conversation.

9. **Sciolto**, “loose”, is the past participle of the verb **sciogliere**, “to loose(n)”. Other verbs conjugated like **sciogliere** are **scogliere**, “to choose”; **togliere**, “to take away”; **cogliere**, “to gather”; and **accogliere**, “to receive”, “to welcome”.
10. **Su di esse**, “on them”. The prepositions **contra**, **dietro**, **dopo**, **senza**, **sopra**, **sotto**, **su**, and often **fra** and **verso** are followed by **di** before a personal pronoun: e.g. **senza di loro**, “without them”; **fra di noi**, “among ourselves”.

11. **Una tassa molto forte**, "a very heavy tax". The adjective **forte**, being modified by an adverb (**molto**), must follow the noun it qualifies.
12. **Costretto**, "compelled", is the past participle of the verb **costringere**, "to compel".
13. **Quali mi consiglia?**, "Which do you advise me (to have)?", that is, "Which do you recommend?" **Mi** is here the indirect object, "to me".
14. **Me ne dà**, "give me (of them)". Compare with **mi dà** below. In the first case we have **me** because it precedes **ne**.
15. **Qualche sigaro**, "some cigars".
16. **Sono dei buoni sigari**, "they are good cigars". Note the use of the partitive article **dei** in the Italian, although its equivalent "some" is not needed in the English.
17. **Ne ho di schiuma**, "I have some in meerschaum".
18. **Mi rammento**, "I remember", is the 1st person singular, present indicative, of the verb **rammentarsi**, "to remember". This is an instance of a verb that is reflexive in Italian but not in English. **Ci rammentiamo**, "we remember".
19. **Non si usa**, "it is not the custom". As a transitive verb **usare** means "to use", "to make use of": e.g. **usa la forza**, "he uses force". As an intransitive verb it signifies "to be in the habit of": e.g. **uso levarmi presto**, "I am accustomed to rise early"; **così s'usa**, "such is the custom".

#### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 20.

##### **Costringere**, "to compel".

Like **stringere**, Lesson 2.

##### **Esporre**, "to display".

*Present Participle*: **esponendo**

*Past Participle*: **esposto**

*Pres. Indic.*: **espongo, esponi, espone, esponiamo, esponete, espóngono**

*Pres. Subj.*: **esponga, esponga, esponga, esponiamo, esponiate, espóngano**

*Imp. Indic.*: **esponevo, esponevi, esponeva, esponevamo, esponevate, esponévano**

*Imp. Subj.*: **esponessi, esponessi, esponesse, esponéssimo, esponeste, esponéssero**

*Past Def.*: **esposi, esponesti, espone, esponemmo, esponeste, espósero**

*Future*: **esporrò, esporrái, esporrà, esporremo, esporrete, esporranno**

*Conditional*: **esporréi, esporresti, esporrebbe, esporremmo, esporreste, esporrébbero**

**Scégliere**, "to choose".

*Past Participle* : scelto

*Pres. Indic.* : scelgo, scegli, scegli, scegliamo, scegliete,  
scélgono

*Pres. Subj.* : scelga, scelga, scelga, scegliamo, scegliate, scélgano

*Past Def.* : scelsi, scegliesti, scelse, scegliemmo. sceglieste,  
scélsero

**Sciógliere**, "to loose".

Like **scégliere** above.

## Lesson 21 (Il Barbiere)

1. **Per r dere la barba ad un cliente prima gli copre il mento . . .**, "to shave a customer he first of all covers his chin . . .", lit. "in order to shave the beard to a customer first to him he covers the chin . . ." We have already observed that when reference is made to a part of the body the possessive adjective is avoided and its place taken by the definite article with a reflexive or indirect object pronoun. There are several examples in this lesson : cf. **gli sp zzola il sopr bito** in the next paragraph.  
The use of the preposition **a**, instead of **di**, before **un cliente** is analogous with the construction referred to above. One does not say **rado la mia barba**, "I shave (my beard)", but **mi rado la barba**, lit. "to me I shave the beard", or simply **mi rado**, "I shave (myself)".
2. **Bene affilato**, "very sharp", lit. "well sharpened". The final **e** of **bene** remains because it comes before a vowel (see No. 19, Lesson 19).
3. **F rbici**, "scissors". **F rbici grosse**, "shears". **Av re qualcuno nelle f rbici**, "to have someone in one's clutches".
4. **Figura**, "picture", "engraving", also denotes "figure" in the sense of "appearance" or "shape" : **la figura umana**, "the human figure"; **f re una cattiva figura**, "to cut a bad figure". In arithmetic the word for "figure" is **cifra** : **in cifra tonda**, "in round figures"; **in l ttere ed in cifre**, "in words and figures".
5. **Si fa tagli re i capelli**, "(he) is having his hair cut". Take note of the examples in this lesson of the *factitive* construction referred to in Lesson 10, No. 19. Note especially **si fa f re una frizione**.
6. **Sta per and r v **, "(he) is about to leave", "is on the point of leaving". **St re per . . .** indicates that an action is about to be performed : e.g. **stava per d re**, "he was about to say"; **stiamo per scr verle**, "we are on the point of writing to her".
7. **Dopo di  sser stato servito**, "after having been served", lit. "after to be been served". **Dopo** is sometimes followed by **di** before a dependent infinitive.
8. **Seduti**, "sitting". (See No. 11, Lesson 18).
9. **Pei signori . . . per le signore**, "for gentlemen . . . for ladies". The preposition **per** is contracted only with the forms **il** and **i** of the definite article (No. 11, Lesson 1) : e.g. **pel bambino**, "for the child", but **per la madre**, "for the mother", etc.
10. **Ambedue**, "both", is an invariable word. Synonymous with it is **tutti (tutte) e due** : e.g. **tutti e due i fratelli**, "both brothers"; **tutte e due le sorelle**, "both sisters". **Due** may sometimes be used alone as in **noi due**, "both of us"; **i due lati**, "both sides", etc.

11. **Esperti**, "expert". When an adjective qualifies two or more nouns, it must be in the plural. If the nouns are of different genders and refer to *persons* the adjective must be masculine; if they refer to *things*, the adjective almost invariably agrees with the nearest noun. **Antonio e Maria sono riveriti da tutti**, "Antony and Mary are revered by everyone", but **i prigionieri avevano i polsi e le gambe legate**, "the prisoners' wrists and legs were bound", lit. "the prisoners had the wrists and the legs bound". In the second sentence the adjective agrees with the noun nearest to it, i.e. **gambe**.
12. **Nel taglio e nell'ondulazione**, "in cutting and waving". Italian here uses nouns where English prefers gerunds. Note also the insertion of the definite article.
13. **Sanno usáre**, "they can use".
14. **Nell'onduláre i capelli**, "in waving hair". Here is another infinitive used as a verbal noun. Like a noun it is preceded by an article; like a verb it takes a direct object. (Cf. No. 46, Lesson 5).
15. **Le labbra**, "the lips", is the irregular plural of the masculine noun **labbro**. **Ha il cuore sulle labbra**, "he speaks candidly"; **aveva la parola sulle labbra** (or **sulla punta della lingua**), "he had the word on the tip of his tongue". The plural **labbri** is restricted to things, and then usually means "borders", "edges": e.g. **i labbri della tavola**, "the edges of the table"; **i labbri d'una ferita**, "the edges of a wound".

### Conversation:

16. **Si segga**, "sit down", "take a seat", is the polite imperative singular, of the verb **sedersi**, "to sit down". If the verb is reflexive, as in this case, the reflexive pronoun precedes the imperative in the polite form. Observe carefully the position of the pronoun in the following examples of the polite and familiar forms of the imperative: e.g. "help yourself", **sérviti, servítevi** or **si serva**.
17. **Che cosa desidera?**, lit. "what do you want?" corresponds to the English phrase "what can I do for you?"
18. **Taglio di capelli o la barba**, "hair-cut or shave", lit. "cut of hair or the beard", the words **che si faccia** (or **rada**) being understood before **la barba**. The word **barba** is used in many of those expressions where, in English, we should say "shave" or "shaving". Cf. **pennello per la barba** (Lesson 6), "shaving-brush".
19. **Lavateli**, "wash it". The pronoun **li** is plural because it refers to the plural noun **capelli**.

20. **Sono sporchi di fumo**, "it is dirty through smoke". The literal meaning of **sono** is, of course, "they are". The preposition **di** may express *cause* or *instrument*. In the above phrase it indicates the reason for the dirt; in the following example it denotes the instrument with which a thing is done: **l'inferno è lastricato di buone intenzioni**, "hell is paved with good intentions".
21. **Irritata**, lit. "irritated", implies "easily irritated", that is "tender".
22. **Fa sangue**, "bleeds". The verb **sanguinare**, "to bleed", is rarely used, being replaced by such expressions as **fare sangue**, **perdere sangue**.
23. **Sarebbe un peccato**, "it would be a pity". The literal meaning of **peccato**, is "sin", and it is only in phrases of this kind that it can mean "pity", for which the usual word is **compassione** or **pietà**: e.g. **che peccato!**, "what a pity!"; **avevo compassione di lui**, "I had pity on him"; **per pietà**, "for pity's sake".
24. **Non ho nessuna fiducia**, "I have no faith". When "faith" means "belief" or "creed", the word **fede** is used: e.g. **morire per la fede**, "to die for one's faith".
- Apart from the simple form of the negative, the Italian negative generally consists of two parts, of which **non** is one: e.g. **non fuma**, "he does not smoke", but **non fuma mai**, "he never smokes"; **non vede nulla** (or **niente**), "he sees nothing"; **non parla a nessuno**, "he does not speak to anybody", "he speaks to nobody". In the case of **nessuno**, **niente** and **nulla**, however, if these *precede* the verb, either as adjectives or pronouns, **non** is omitted: e.g. **nessuno lo dirà**, "nobody will say so"; **niente al mondo mi farà dimenticarlo**, "nothing in the world will make me forget it".
25. **Il signore desidera . . . ?**, lit. "does the gentleman desire . . . ?". The use of **il signore** is even more formal than that of **lei**. Cf. **il signore è servito** below, a polite way of intimating that the assistant has finished.

---

#### Irregular verb found in Lesson 21.

**Tendere**, "to show a tendency to".

Like **sospendere**, Lesson 4.



## Lesson 22 (Il Dottore ed il Farmacista)

1. **Lo mandi a chiamáre**, "send for him", lit. "send to call him". The pronoun **lo**, standing for **médico**, appears to be the object of **mandi**, although it is, of course, the object of **chiamáre**. This is the usual construction with the verbs **mandáre**, **fare**, **lasciáre**, **vedére**, **sentíre**, etc. If the object of the dependent infinitive is a *pronoun*, this pronoun precedes the factitive verb (a). If, however, the object of either verb is a *noun*, it usually follows both verbs (b), and if the principal verb also has an object, that object becomes indirect (c).

Examples: (a) **Li fece mandár vía**, "He had them sent away".

(b) **Sentivo díre molte cose**, "I heard many things being said".

(c) **Faccio studiár la lezione a questa ragazza**,  
"I make this girl study the lesson".

but **Gliela faccio studiáre**, "I make her study it".

2. **Egli verrà**, "he will come", is the 3rd person singular, future tense, of the irregular verb **veníre**, "to come".
3. **Appena possibile**, "as soon as possible". Note the various uses of the word **appena** (see Lessons 6, No. 44, and 26, No. 5). The following is an example of its literal use: **posso appena créderlo**, "I can hardly believe it".
4. **Ascolterà il battito**, "(he) will listen to the beating". The verb **ascoltáre**, "to listen to", takes a direct object without the intervention of any preposition.
5. **Presterà attenzione**, "(he) will pay attention", lit. "will lend attention". The English verb "to pay", apart from the sense of "to pay money" (**pagáre denaro**), is rendered in various ways in Italian: e.g. "to pay homage", **réndere omaggio**; "to pay a visit", **fare una visita**; "to pay the penalty of . . .", **subíre le conseguenze di . . .**, etc.
6. **Diágnosi**, "diagnosis", like all nouns ending in **-i**, is invariable.
7. **La cura da seguire**, "the treatment to follow". **Da** indicates necessity, i.e. "the treatment it is necessary for you to follow". **Cura** may signify "cure", "treatment" or "management", but rarely "cure", for which the correct word is **guarigione**.
8. **Lei porterà**, "you will take". The verb **portáre** is used because *motion* is implied; the prescription has to be carried from one place to another. Cf. **il médico mi dà la ricetta ed io la prendo**, "the doctor gives me the prescription and I take it", but **quando il médico mi dà una ricetta la porto da un farmacista**, "when the doctor gives me a prescription I take it to a chemist's".

9. **Questi le preparerà**, "the latter will prepare *for* you": We have here an instance of the "ethic" dative, usually rendered in English by "for", with the idea of "for the benefit of". Cf. **lei può procurarsi**, "you can get (for yourself)", at the end of the descriptive part of this lesson.
10. **Specialità**, "specialities", is the word used to indicate "patent medicines" (**specialità farmaceutiche**).
11. **Fotografia**, "photography", also means "photograph" (see next line).
12. **Stampare**, "to print". **La stampa**, "the (newspaper) press".
13. **Lei stesso**, "yourself". The adjective **stesso** varies in gender and number to agree with the pronoun it accompanies: e.g. **noi stessi li vedemmo**, "we saw them ourselves"; **lo fece lei stessa**, "she did it herself"; **dissi a me stesso**, "I said to myself".

### Conversation.

14. **Ammalato grave**, "man seriously ill". **Ammalato** is an adjective used as a noun (see Lesson 4, No. 25) and is itself qualified by the adjective **grave**.
15. **Mi ha detto che sarà di ritorno**, "he told me that he would be back", lit. "he has told me that he will be back". As the present perfect tense (**ha detto**) is here rendered by the English imperfect ("told"), the future tense in the subordinate clause (**sarà**) must be rendered by the conditional in the English ("would be").
16. **Entro**, a synonym of **dentro**, means "within" with reference to time or place, or it may have a figurative meaning. **Entro tre giorni**, "within three days"; **entro i confini**, "within the boundaries"; **entro di me**, "within me", that is, "within my mind".
17. **Il primo ad ésser ricevuto**, "the first to be received". The adjectives "first", "last", "only" and superlatives are followed by **a** before a dependent infinitive.
18. **Vengo subito**, approx. "I'll be with you in a minute". The adverb **subito** may signify "immediately" or "in a moment", implying "as soon as possible".
19. **Che c'è di nuovo?**, "what has happened?", lit. "what is there of new?" This phrase is often used to express "What is the news?" Cf. **Sapete qualche cosa di nuovo?**, "Any news?"
20. **Quindici giorni fa**, "a fortnight ago". (See No. 26, Lesson 19).
21. **Benone**, "very well", is made up of the adverb **bene**, "well", and the augmentative suffix **-one**.
22. **Mal di testa**, "headache". **Mal di denti**, "toothache"; **mal di mare**, "seasickness"; **mal del paese**, "home-sickness";

- mal di cuore, "heart-disease" (not "heartache", which is dolore or afflizione).
23. **Lei ha qualche décimo di febbre**, "you are a little feverish", lit. "you have a few 'tenths' of fever". **Un décimo** is "a tenth". In this instance it stands for a tenth part (**décima parte**) of a degree.
24. **Questa mia ricetta**, "this prescription of mine", lit. "this my prescription".
25. **Stia a dieta**, "diet (yourself)", "remain on diet". **A dieta láttea**, "on milk diet". **Stia** is the polite imperative of the verb **stáre**.

---

### Irregular verb found in Lesson 22.

**Cuócere**, "to cook".

*Past Participle*: **cotto**

*Pres. Indic.*: **cuocio** or **cuoco**, **cuoci**, **cuoce**, **cociamo**, **cocete**,  
**cuóciono** or **cuócono**

*Pres. Subj.*: **cuocia** or **cuoca**, **cuocia** or **cuoca**, **cuocia** or  
**cuoca**, **cociamo**, **cociate**, **cuóciano** or **cuócano**

*Past Def.*: **cossi**, **cocesti**, **cosse**, **cocemmo**, **coceste**, **cóssero**  
(See also note to **riscuótere**, Lesson 12).

## Lesson 23 (Il Sarto)

1. **Gli uómini**, "men". Note the use of the definite article (see Lesson 11, No. 3).
2. **Ábiti su misura**, "clothes (made) to measure". Mark the difference in the prepositions used in the two languages.
3. **Ábito** can be used for "clothes" (in the sense of a complete outfit) or for "coat", "dress", "suit", etc. **Ábito civile**, "plain clothes", "mufti"; **ábito d'inverno**, "winter suit"; **ábito sport**, "plus fours"; **ábito di nozze**, "wedding dress".
4. **Fa trascrivere . . . le misure**, "has the measurements copied (entered)". The popular *factitive* construction again makes its appearance.
5. **Di cui**, "of which", is an invariable phrase, but the alternative **del quale**, etc., must be made to agree with its antecedent. In this case it would be **le misure delle quali . . .** (see No. 2, Lesson 5).
6. **Ábito completo**, "suit (of clothes)", lit. "complete suit". The adjective **completo** can be omitted (see No. 3 above).
7. **Giacchetta**, "jacket", "coat". Although this word is diminutive in form it is not diminutive in meaning. Cf. **giacca** below.
8. **Smoking** is a word that has been borrowed from English and incorrectly used. Similarly English has borrowed the word **confetti** which, in Italian, does not denote the little pieces of coloured paper thrown at weddings, carnivals, etc., but "sweets" and, in particular, the "sugared almonds" presented to guests at a wedding.
9. **Dal calzolaio**, "at the shoemaker's". Take note of these nouns ending in **-aio**. There are several examples in this lesson, viz. **cappellaio**, **guantaio**, **camiciario**, etc.
10. **Cappello a cencio**, "trilby", "soft hat". **Cencio** means "rag", **cencioso**, "ragamuffin". The word **cencio** is used in a number of idiomatic expressions, such as, **cencio molle**, "weak-minded person"; **i cenci vanno all'aria**, "the weak go to the wall"; **stáre nei suoi cenci**, "to be content with one's lot", etc.
11. **Frac**, "dress-suit", must not be confused with the English "frock-coat".

### Conversation.

12. **Quarantott'ore**, "forty-eight hours". The final **-o** of **otto** in compound numbers is not usually elided before any other vowel but **o**.
13. **Lutto**, "mourning". **Stretto lutto**, "deep mourning"; **portáre il lutto per . . .**, "to be in mourning for . . ."; **préndere il lutto**, "to go into mourning"; **sméttere il lutto**, "to go out of mourning".

14. **E che la stoffa non sia troppo pesante**, "and I don't want the stuff to be too heavy", lit. "and that the stuff be not too heavy". The subjunctive (*sia*) is dependent upon **ho bisogno** in the previous sentence.
15. **Lei sa riconoscere**, "you can recognise", implying "you know how to recognise", so **sapere** is used instead of **potere**.
16. **La giacca**, "the jacket", "the coat" (cf. No. 7 above). **Giacca tennis**, "blazer".
17. **Di dietro**, "behind". When used as an adverb **dietro** is generally preceded by a preposition which, in the case of **a** or **in**, is joined to it to form one word: e.g. **rimase indietro**, "he stayed behind"; **danno addietro**, "they give way (i.e. retreat)"; **l'hanno afferrato per di dietro**, "they caught hold of him from behind".
18. **Prego sempre i signori clienti**, "I always ask customers". The addition of **signori** renders the phrase more polite (cf. No. 25, Lesson 21).
19. **Va bene**, "very well", "that will do", "that will be all right", lit. "it goes well". **Ciò andrà benissimo**, "that will do very well". The verb **stare** can be used in the same way, **sta bene** being synonymous with **va bene**.
20. **Se il vestito sarà ben fatto lo pagherò subito**, "if the suit is (lit. will be) well made, I will pay for it at once". See No. 26, Lesson 17, for the use of the future tense after **se**. Note also that the verb **pagare** means "to pay for" and takes a direct object of the thing paid for. **Pagái questo libro 10 lire**, "I paid 10 lire for this book"; **essa pagò cara la sua esperienza**, "she paid dearly for her experience".
21. **Le andrà**, "it will fit you". Here is another meaning of the verb **andare**, namely, "to fit" or "to suit". As, however, it is an intransitive verb, it can only have an *indirect* object. Cf. **l'abito gli va molto bene**, "the suit fits him very well". (Note: **gli**, not **lo**).

---

#### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 23.

**Riconoscere**, "to recognise".

Like **conoscere**, Lesson 6.

**Soddisfare**, "to satisfy".

Like **fare**, Lesson 1.

**Trascrivere**, "to copy".

Like **scrivere**, Lesson 1.

## Lesson 24 (La Sarta e la Modista)

1. **Farsi fare**, "to have made (for themselves)". **Si** is here an "ethic" dative (see Lesson 22, No. 9). This dative is often used pleonastically and need not always be translated into English.
2. **Giornale di moda**, "fashion-paper". **Giornale quotidiano o settimanale**, "daily or weekly newspaper"; **giornale di navigazione**, "log-book"; **tenere un giornale**, "to keep a diary".
3. **Si decidono per**, "(they) decide on". The reflexive verb **decidersi**, "to make up one's mind", implies more deliberation than the simple verb **decidere**. When followed by a dependent infinitive, it is used with a different preposition: e.g. "I decided to leave (*or on leaving*)", **ho deciso DI partire**, but **mi sono deciso A partire**.
4. **Fa tagliare . . . cliente**, "(she) has the stuff and the lining chosen by the customer cut out by the cutter". Note the word-order. An infinitive dependent upon a factitive verb must follow that verb *immediately*. The object, when qualified by a participial phrase, must come at the end of the clause, *after* the agent.
5. **Laboratorio** has the meaning "laboratory", but it can denote *any* room where work is carried on; here the English equivalent is "work-room".
6. **Per essere cucite**, "(in order) to be sewn". **Per** is inserted for the sake of indicating purpose, that is, the object for which the stuff, etc., is sent to the work-room.
7. **Per mettervi le guarnizioni**, "to put on the trimmings". The adverb **vi** indicates "on it", that is, on the dress.
8. **Consegnato o mandato**, "delivered or sent". **Consegnato** indicates that the dress is handed over by the dressmaker or one of her representatives in person, whereas **mandato** implies that it is sent in some other way.
9. **Crestaia**, "milliner", comes from the noun **cresta**, "crest", "comb" (of animals), "head", with the suffix **-aia**, which always denotes occupation (cf. **-aio**, No. 27, Lesson 15). **Alzàre la cresta**, "to become proud". The more usual word for "milliner" is, of course, **modista**.
10. **Si usano molto mantelli con colletti di pelliccia**, "coats with fur collars are very popular (lit. are used much)". Note that **molto** is here used adverbially; it qualifies **usano**, not **mantelli**, and is therefore invariable.

### Conversation.

11. **Sono invitata**, lit. "I am invited". In English we should say "I have been invited", but to express an act or state that continues from the past into the present, Italian uses the present tense.

12. **Con il medesimo ábito col quale**, “*in the same dress in which*”. The preposition **con** cannot always be rendered by the English “*with*”, as will be seen by the following examples: **andò col treno**, “*he went by train*”; **con mio cómodo**, “*at my leisure*”; **con la speranza che . . .**, “*in the hope that . . .*”
13. **Desidero . . . che lei faccia**, “*I want you to make*”. Bear in mind that it is impossible to introduce the infinitive into an Italian subordinate clause of this kind where the subject is different from that of the main clause, and that after a verb of *wishing* the subjunctive must be used.
14. **Serio**, lit. “*serious*”, should here be translated “*plain*” or “*quiet*”. The word also has the meaning of “*reliable*”, “*earnest*”: e.g. **è un giovane serio**, “*he is a steady young man*”.
15. **Nello stesso tempo**, “*at the same time*”. **Nel tempo stesso, allo stesso tempo** and **al tempo stesso** are also correct, but where the adjective follows the noun it is more emphatic.
16. **Il mio meglio**, “*my best*”. **Meglio** is an adverb used as a noun. Like all other parts of speech used as nouns it is masculine.
17. **Un ábito che sia di sua completa soddisfazione**, “*a dress that shall be to (lit. of) your complete satisfaction*”, that is, “*a dress with which you will be quite satisfied*”. When a relative clause refers to an *indefinite* antecedent, the verb of the relative clause must be in the subjunctive, as here (**sia**). If the verb of the principal clause is in the present or future tense, the tense of the subjunctive used in the dependent clause must be present. Contrast the following sentences where, in the first case, the antecedent is indefinite and, in the second, definite:
- Cerco una ragazza che sappia suonare il piano**, “*I am looking for a girl (i.e. any girl) who can play the piano*”.
- Cerco la ragazza che sa suonare il piano**, “*I am looking for the girl (i.e. a definite girl) who can play the piano*”.
18. **Consiglio di farlo**, “*I suggest that it be made*”, lit. “*I advise to make it*”.
19. **Color giallo pálido**, “*in a pale yellow shade*”. As a rule **color** would be preceded by the preposition **di**, but in commercial phraseology, especially in enumerations, only the essentials of construction are retained.
20. **Perle**, “*beads*”. Real “*pearls*” are **perle orientali** or **perle fine**.
21. **L'idea non è mia**, “*the idea is not mine*”. The definite article is omitted before the possessive adjective **mia** because the stress is on “*mine*”, not on “*idea*” (see No. 32, Lesson 5).
22. **Mi è parso**, “*I thought it*”, lit. “*it appeared to me*”. Like so many other intransitive verbs **parere** is conjugated with **essere** in its compound tenses.

23. **Credo che abbia ragione**, " I think (that) you are right ". The subjunctive (here **abbia**) is always found after verbs of thinking, believing, etc.
24. **Faccia lei**, " you do (it) ", that is, " I leave it to you ".
- 

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 24.**

**Decidere**, " to decide ".

Like **sorridere**, Lesson 2.

**Discutere**, " to discuss ".

*Past Participle* : **discusso**

*Past Def.* : **discussi, discutesti, discusse, discutemmo, discuteste, discússero**



## Lesson 25 (Il Tempo)

1. **Il tempo** may mean either "time" or "weather".
2. **Cento anni**, "a hundred years". **Cento** is never preceded by the indefinite article.
3. **Quando l'anno è bisestile**, "when it is a leap year", lit. "when the year is bissextile".
4. **Alba** and **aurora** are both used for "dawn", but **alba** is the first white gleam of day and **aurora** is the vivid glow that follows it before the sun actually rises. Note also **lo spuntare del giorno**, "the day-break".
5. **Tramonto del sole**, "sunset", "setting of the sun". **Tramonto** comes from the verb **tramontare**, which means "to go beyond (tra, trans) the mountain(monte)", that is, "to disappear from sight", "to decline", "to set". Note also **tramontano**, a "person living beyond the mountains".
6. **Chiaro di luna**, "moonlight". Here **chiaro** is a noun.
7. **Un orologio indica il tempo**, "a watch (or clock) indicates the time". Below are some useful expressions in connection with time and clocks: **tic tac dell'orologio**, "ticking of the clock"; **il mio orologio è guasto**, "my watch is out of order"; **devo far regolare quest'orologio**, "I must have this watch regulated"; **l'orologio ritarda**, "the watch is slow"; **il vostro orologio non va**, "your clock is not going"; **il suo orologio è giusto**, "his clock is right"; **non è giusto**, "it is wrong".
8. **I minuti primi**, "the minutes". **Il minuto primo** is a "set" phrase used to indicate the sixtieth part of a degree or an hour.
9. **L'est, l'ovest, il sud, il nord** are also called respectively **l'oriente, il levante**; **l'occidente, il ponente**; **il mezzogiorno** (lit. midday); **il settentrione**.

### Conversation.

10. **Che ora è?**, "what time is it?" This is the usual way of asking the time in Italian, but one also hears the plural form **che ore sono?**
11. **Sulle undici**, "on the eleven". The plural must be used because the word understood is **ore**, "hours": "on the eleven hours".
12. **Le undici e un quarto**, "quarter past eleven", lit. "the eleven (hours) and a quarter". It should be noted that **quarto** means "quarter" only in the sense of fourth part. When the latter has the meaning of "district", it should be translated **quartiere**.

- Do not forget that the number of the hour must be preceded by the definite article: e.g. "it is eleven" is **sono LE undici**.
13. **Ossia**, "or", "that is", is made up of the conjunction **o**, "or" and the 3rd person singular, present subjunctive, of the verb

**essere**, i.e. **sia**, "let it be", with duplication of the initial consonant after the prefix.

14. **Avanzo la lancetta grande**, "I put on the big hand". The verb **avanzare**, "to advance", "to put forward", is also used intransitively of watches with the meaning "to be fast"; e.g. **il mio orologio avanza**, "my watch is fast".
15. **Le undici e mezzo**, "half past eleven", lit. "the eleven (hours) and half". Unlike **quarto** (No. 12), **mezzo** is not preceded by the indefinite article. It should also be noted that although it qualifies a feminine noun (**ore** understood), it is masculine. The reason is that when **mezzo** follows the noun it is qualifying it is usually invariable. **Una mezza mela**, "half an apple"; **mezza la vita**, "half one's life". But **un'ora e mezzo**, "an hour and a half"; **due settimane e mezzo**, "two weeks and a half".
16. **Tra le mani**, "in my hands". The possessive adjective is omitted because we are speaking of a part of the body.
17. **Della sera**, "in the evening", lit. "of the evening". Cf. **le dieci della mattina**, "ten o'clock in the morning"; **alle tre del pomeriggio**, "at three o'clock in the afternoon".
18. **È l'una**, "it is one o'clock. An alternative to this is **è il tocco**.
19. **Sottintesa**, "understood", is the past participle (fem.) of the verb **sottintendere**, which is derived from **sotto**, "under", and **intendere**, "to understand"; it means to make a person understand something that is "underneath" the words, that is, something that is not actually expressed. The English equivalent is therefore "to imply".

---

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 25.

**Appartenere**, "to belong".

Like **tenere**, Lesson 2.

**Esistere**, "to exist".

*Past Participle* : **esistito**

*Past Def.* : **esistèi** or **esistetti**, **esistesti**, **esistè** or **esistette**,  
**esisteste**, **esistèrono** or **esistéttero**

**Sottintendere**, "to imply".

Like **sospendere**, Lesson 4.

## Lesson 26 (Il Cambiavalute e l'Ufficio dei Viaggi)

1. **Cambiavalute** is derived from the verb **cambia**, "changes", and the noun **valute**, "paper money (lit. monies)". It therefore denotes one who changes paper money, whether in the form of bills or notes, of another currency, for cash or notes of the required currency, that is, a "money-changer".
2. **Se lei va in Italia**, "if you go to Italy" (see No. 28, Lesson 12). **A** can be used before names of towns, although not before countries: e.g. **andiamo a Roma**, "let us go to Rome".
3. **Non diméntichi**, "do not forget". To form the negative imperative it is usual simply to put **non** before the positive. In the case of the 2nd person singular, however, the form of the positive is replaced by the infinitive:

Examples:— **andate**, "go!"; **non andate**, "do not go!"  
**venga**, "come!"; **non venga**, "don't come!"  
*but* **parla**, "speak!"; **non parláre**, "do not speak!"

4. **Nel caso che non abbia fatto ciò**, "in case you have not done this". Certain conjunctions, most of which imply doubt or uncertainty, are followed by the subjunctive. Among them are **nel caso che**, "in case"; **purchè**, "provided that"; **se mai**, "if ever"; **a meno che**, "unless".
5. **Appena arrivato**, "as soon as you arrive", lit. "scarcely arrived". This absolute use of the past participle is very common in Italian. It is usually better to render it by a dependent clause in English. **Finito il lavoro, se ne andò**, "having finished the work (or when he had finished the work) he went away"; **caduta la città di Troia, Enea, insieme co' suoi compagni, andò errando**, "when the city of Troy fell (or after the fall of the city of Troy), Æneas, together with his companions, went wandering about".
6. **Le cambierà**, "(he) will change for you". The indirect object pronoun here means "for you" (see also No. 9, Lesson 22 and No. 1, Lesson 24).
7. **Versata**, "paid in", lit. "poured out". **Versò lácrime**, "she shed tears"; **versò il sangue per la patria**, "he shed his blood for his country"; **per favore, mi versi un bicchiere d'acqua**, "please pour me out a glass of water".
8. **Tante cassette di sicurezza**, "many strong-boxes". The adjective **tanto**, the original meaning of which is "so much" and, in the plural, "so many", is often used as a synonym of **molto**. Cf. **tante grazie**, "many thanks", lit. "so many thanks."

## Conversation.

9. **Vuol**, "will you". The final **e** of **vuole** is often dropped.
10. **Per cortesia**, "please". Other phrases in common use for "please" are **per favore**, **per gentilezza** and **prego**.
11. **Sterline**, "pounds", is an abbreviation of **lire sterline**. The adjective **sterline** is added to avoid confusion with the Italian currency, **lire**.
12. **Il cambio è di . . .**, "the exchange stands at . . ." (see No. 24, Lesson 12).
13. **Il diritto di commissione**, lit. "the right of commission" here means simply "the commission".
14. **Rivólgersi**, "to apply", in the sense of "to address oneself" to a person. The normal rendering for "to apply" is **applicáre**: e.g. **applicáre la mente**, "to apply one's mind"; **applicò la regola**, "he applied the rule"; **bisogna applicáre un cataplasma**, "you must apply a poultice".
15. **Desídero sapére**, "I want to know". The enquirer wants to know a *fact*, so **sapére**, not **conóscere**, is used.

---

### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 26.

**Rivólgere**, "to address".

*Past Participle*: **rivolto**

*Past Def.*: **rivolsi**, **rivolgesti**, **rivolse**, **rivolgemmo**, **rivolgeste**,  
**rivolséro**

**Trattenére**, "to keep back".

Like **tenére**, Lesson 2.

## Lesson 27 (Il Commercio e l'Industria)

1. **Commercio** may mean "commerce", "trade" or "business": **commercio all'ingrosso**, "wholesale trade"; **commercio al dettaglio**, "retail trade"; **commercio bancario**, "banking business", etc.
2. **Posto** has a variety of meanings. Here it means "position"; in Lesson 5 it was translated "place"; in Lesson 11 (end of Part 1) "post", (Part 2) "seat". Note also **posto di pompieri**, "fire-station"; **sul posto**, "on the spot"; **mettere a posto**, "to put straight"; **vi è posto per dieci persone**, "there is room for ten people".
3. **Per**, "as regards".
4. **Carbone**, "coal". **Carbone di legna**, "charcoal".
5. **L'Italia . . . dall'Inghilterra . . . dall'Australia**, "Italy . . . from England . . . from Australia". With the exception of the cases mentioned in Lesson 12, No. 28, names of continents, countries, provinces or large islands must be preceded by the definite article.
6. **Materie prime e coloranti**, "raw materials and dye-stuffs". Here **prime** has the sense of "primary". **Coloranti** is a verbal adjective also agreeing with **materie**. "Colouring matter" is **materia colorante**. The plural **materie coloranti** conveys the idea of "different kinds of colouring matter", that is "dye-stuffs". Note the two types of adjectives used here.
7. **Petrolio e benzina**. There is likely to be confusion as to the correct meaning of these words. **Petrolio** does not signify "petrol", but "petroleum"; **benzina** is the equivalent of "petrol".
8. **In tutto il mondo**, "throughout the world", "all over the world".
9. **Imitazioni di antichità romane**, "reproductions of Roman antiquities". **Romane** is feminine plural to agree with **antichità**, which has the same form in singular and plural. The word **imitazioni** does not mean "imitations" in the sense of "forgeries", but simply reproductions for people or institutions unable to procure the original.
10. **Sempre più prospero**, "more and more prosperous". Note this construction with **sempre più** for the English phrase "more and more" or a duplicated comparative, as in **sempre più piccolo**, "smaller and smaller"; **sempre più freddo**, "colder and colder"; **sempre più bella**, "more and more beautiful".
11. **L'Italia, paese agricolo**, "Italy, an agricultural country". In Italian both the definite and indefinite articles are omitted between nouns in apposition: e.g. **Firenze, città di Toscana**, "Florence, a city of Tuscany"; **Roma, capitale d'Italia**, "Rome, the capital of Italy". In the phrase taken from

- the text there is even a causal value: "Italy, *being* an agricultural country" or "As Italy is an agricultural country".
12. **Legno**, "wood", "timber". This word has a regular plural **legni**, and an irregular, **legna**, which is feminine. The latter, however, is only used for "firewood".
  13. **Salsa di pomodoro**, "tomato-sauce". The noun **pomodoro** really means "apple (pomo) of gold (d'oro)". It can form its plural in three ways: **pomodori**, **pomidoro** or **pomidori**.

### Conversation.

14. **Vorréi parláre con il signor Ponte**, "I should like to speak to Mr. Ponte". **Parláre a** or **parláre con** are both correct, but the verb used with **con** denotes rather an interview in which some business is discussed or where there is some definite object in the conversation; it would not be used for a mere desultory conversation.
15. **Questa mattina**, "this morning" (see No. 21).
16. **Venire da lui**, "to call at his office", "to call on him".
17. **In ufficio**, "in his office", is a "set" phrase like **a casa**, etc.
18. **Si accómodi** is the usual phrase for "sit down", "take a seat". The real meaning, however, is "make yourself comfortable", the verb being derived from **cómodo**, "comfortable".
19. **Voglio far sapére al signor Ponte**, "I wish Mr. Ponte to be informed", lit. "I wish to make to know to Mr. Ponte". **Fár sapére** is the usual expression for "to cause to be informed", "to let know". Note this example of the *factive* construction.
20. **Appena líbero**, "as soon as (he is) free".
21. **Stamane**, "this morning", is the abbreviated form of **questa mane**. In these expressions of time with a demonstrative adjective the first part of the adjective (i.e. **que-**) can be dropped and the ending joined to the noun, as in the case above. Note also **stamattina**, the synonym of **stamane**; **stasera**, "this evening"; **stanotte**, "to-night"; "last night".
22. **Relazione d'affari**, "business relations".
23. **Lo so**, "I know (it)". **Lo** here stands for a whole clause, not a single word: "I know (that you have never had the occasion to enter into business relations with our firm)". Cf. **Come poteva sapére se io venivo o no? Lo ho (l'ho) indovinato**, "How could you tell whether I was coming or not? I guessed (it)". The "it" can usually be omitted in the English.
24. **Ci occupiamo di**, "we are concerned with", lit. "we occupy ourselves of".
25. **Vi offriamo di raccógliere**, "we propose (or suggest) that you collect", lit. "we offer you to collect".

26. **Cioè**, "that is". In this expression the pronoun and verb are always found together and form one word.
27. **Franco di porto**, "carriage free". Cf. **franco di dazio**, "duty free".
28. **Assicurazione** means "assurance" in the sense of promise or guarantee, as well as the commercial term "insurance". **Ho ricevuto da lui assicurazione che . . .**, "I have received assurance from him that . . .". But **assicurazione contro l'incendio**, "fire-insurance"; **assicurazione sulla vita**, "life-insurance", etc.
29. **Pagamento a tratta**, "payment *by* draft".
30. **Scadenza**, "maturity"; **a breve scadenza**, "at short maturity", "short-dated". The corresponding verb is **scadere**, "to fall due": **la cambiale è scaduta fin dal 10 corrente**, "the bill has been due (for payment) since the 10th of the month".

---

#### Irregular verbs found in Lesson 27.

**Proporre**, "to propose".

Like **esporre**, Lesson 20.

**Raccogliere**, "to receive".

Like **scogliere**, Lesson 20.

## Lesson 28 (L'Automobile)

1. **L'automobile**, "the motor-car", can be masculine, as here, or feminine, as in the next sentence.
2. **È diventato**, "has become".
3. **Molto usato e molto comodo**, "*much* used and *very* convenient".
4. **Non passerà gran tempo che . . .**, "it will not be long before . . .", lit. "will not pass much time that . . .". It is interesting to note how the English adverb "long" is translated in this and the following phrases: "all night long", (*durante*) **tutta la notte**; "before long", **fra breve** or **presto**; "how long has he been in Italy?", **da quanto tempo è in Italia?**; "have they been here long?", **è da molto tempo che sono qui?**
5. **H.P.** is sometimes used as an alternative to the Italian equivalent **C.V.** which stands for **cavallo vapore**.
6. **Si è riparati**, "one is protected", "one is sheltered". Note the singular verb with a plural participle in this impersonal construction (cf. No. 13, Lesson 4).
7. **Dalle intemperie**, "from bad weather". **Intemperie** is an invariable word: **la intemperie** or **le intemperie**.
8. "**Chassis**" has been borrowed from the French. If written in Italian as it is pronounced, it would be "**sciassi**", which accounts for the fact that it is preceded by **lo** and not **il**.
9. **Al di sotto del cofano**, "beneath the bonnet". **Sotto** used alone is not followed by a preposition before a noun, but **al di sotto** must be followed by **di** (here combined with **il** to form **del**). Compare **sopra** and **al di sopra di**, Lesson 4, No. 34.
10. **A portata di mano**, "at hand", "within reach of his hand". **A portata d'orecchio**, "within hearing"; **a portata di voce**, "within hailing distance"; **fuori portata**, "out of reach".
11. **La leva del cambio di velocità**, "the gear-lever", lit. "the lever of the change of speed".
12. **Dopo aver superato un esame**, "after passing an examination", lit. "after to have overcome an examination". Here is another instance of **dopo** followed by the *perfect* infinitive.
13. **Tenere la destra**, "(to) keep to the right". No preposition is needed in the Italian.

### Conversation.

14. **È piccola essendo . . .**, "it is small, as it is . . .", lit. "it is small, being . . .". The present participle sometimes has a causal value. Cf. **Essendo libero, può venire**, "as he is free, he can come".
15. **Una 9 H.P.**, stands for **un'automobile** (fem.) **di 9 H.P.** and therefore the indefinite article is feminine.
16. **Su una strada piana**, "on the level", lit. "on a level road".
17. **Può condúrmi?**, "can you take me?" When the object of the verb "to take" is a person, the correct verb to use is **condúrre**,



- although **portare** is occasionally found. The latter, however, really implies carrying in one's hands or arms, or on the back of a person or animal.
18. **Tratto di strada**, "short run", lit. "stretch of road". (Cf. Lesson 18, No. 17).
  19. **Ben volentieri**, lit. "very willingly", is the usual way of expressing "certainly", "with pleasure", in answer to a request or invitation.
  20. **A meraviglia**, "marvellously". It is quite common in Italian to replace an adverb by an adverbial phrase, consisting of a preposition and a noun, especially if the adverb would be rather long, as in this case, viz. **meravigliosamente**. Cf. **per** (or **in**) **conseguenza**, "consequently"; **di propósito** or **con premeditazione**, "intentionally".
  21. **Sarà meglio che mi fermi**, "I had better stop", lit. "it will be better that I stop". The subjunctive is due to the fact that **mi fermi** is dependent upon the impersonal verb **sarà meglio**. **Fermarsi**, "to stop", is always reflexive when used intransitively. In the following sentence it is, of course, transitive: **ha fermato la macchina**, "he has stopped the engine".
  22. **Ruota di ricambio**, "spare wheel". The word **ricambio**, in commercial phraseology means "re-exchange"; otherwise it conveys the idea of "reciprocation" as in **ricambio di saluti**, "reciprocation (or return) of greetings". Similarly the verb **ricambiare**: **ricambiò la visita**, "he returned the visit"; **si deve ricambiare bene per male**, "one must return good for evil"; **ricambiarsi dei complimenti**, "to exchange compliments". The phrase **di ricambio** is equivalent to the English "spare" (for replacing): e.g. **attrezzi di ricambio**, "spare tools".
  23. **Temo che vi sia una bucatura**, "I'm afraid there is a puncture". In this case the subjunctive is necessary because the verb in the subordinate clause (**sia**) is dependent upon a verb of fearing (**temo**).
  24. **Sgonfio**, "deflated", is the antonym of **gonfio**, "inflated", "swollen" (see No. 42, Lesson 8).
  25. **Candele**, "sparkling plugs", also means "candles". Note the expression **accendere una candela al diavolo e una a Sant'Antonio**, "to run with the hares and hunt with the hounds", lit. "to light one candle to the devil and one to Saint Anthony".
  26. **Qualcuna nuova**, "some new ones". The pronoun **qualcuno**, like the adjective **qualche** is used only in the singular. (See also No. 25, Lesson 4).
  27. **Nel caso che . . . si sporchino**, "in case . . . (they) get dirty". Note again the use of the subjunctive after **nel caso che**.

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 28.**

**Chiúdere**, "to close".

Like **sorridere**, Lesson 2.

**Pórre**, "to place".

Like **espórre**, Lesson 20.

## Lesson 29 (Il Teatro)

1. **Drammi** is the plural of the masculine noun **dramma**. Do not confuse this with the feminine noun **dramma**, which means "drachm".
2. **Si può andare a teatro**, "one can go to the theatre". **A teatro** is a "set" phrase like **a casa**, **a scuola**, etc., in which the definite article is omitted.
3. **Certe rappresentazioni si fanno**, "some performances are given" (lit. make themselves). Cf. No. 15, Lesson 12.
4. **All'intorno della sala**, "round the auditorium".
5. **Nascosta agli spettatori**, "hidden from the spectators". **Nascosta** is the past participle (fem.) of **nascóndere**, "to hide". This verb takes an indirect object of the person from whom the thing or person is hidden: e.g. **non posso nascóndergli la verità**, "I cannot hide the truth from him (lit. to him)"; **nasconde i fatti a suo padre**, "he conceals the facts from (lit. to) his father".
6. **Professori**, "executants". If there is likely to be ambiguity owing to the fact that **professori** also means "teachers", the instrumentalists must be called **professori d'orchestra**.
7. **Direttore d'orchestra**, "orchestra-conductor". No emphasis is laid on **orchestra**, so it is not preceded by the definite article (cf. Lesson 2, No. 25). If, however, one wanted to qualify the word **orchestra**, the article would have to be inserted: e.g. **il direttore della magnífica orchestra della Scala**, "the conductor of the wonderful orchestra at the Scala".
8. **Poltroncine**, "pit-stalls", is a diminutive of **poltrone**, "stalls", "arm-chairs".
9. **Rappresentano la loro parte**, "play their parts", and **condúcono gli spettatori al loro posto**, "conduct the spectators to their seats", are further instances of the rule referred to in Lesson 11. No. 15.

### Conversation.

10. **Pensáre . . . ai miei affari**, "to think . . . of my business". "To think of" must be rendered by **pensare A**, unless it means to have an opinion about something or somebody, in which case the preposition **di** can be used. **Non pensa che a balli**, "she thinks of nothing but dances". But **non so che cosa pensáre del suo silenzio**, "I don't know what to think of his silence".
11. **Qualche cosa di diverso**, "something different". **Qualche cosa** is frequently followed by **di** before an adjective or adverb: e.g. **qualche cosa di buono**, "something good"; **qualche cosa di più**, "something more". In these phrases **di** has a partitive value.

12. **Sarà bene affrettarsi**, "we had better hurry", lit. "it will be well to hurry oneself".
13. **Sono dolente**, "I am very sorry". **Dolente** really means "sad", "grieved", "afflicted"; it is the verbal adjective from **dolere**, "to suffer", "to regret".
14. **Per dove si passa?**, "which way does one go?", lit. "by where does one pass?"
15. **Favoriscano i biglietti**, "tickets, please". **Favoriscano** is the polite imperative (plural) of the verb **favorire**, "to favour". It is used to express "please", "be so kind as..." Cf. **favorisca entrare**, "please come in"; **favorisca dirgli che...**, "be so kind as to tell him that..."
16. **Da questa parte**, "this way", lit. "by this part". **L'entrata**, "the way in", "the entrance"; **l'uscita**, "the way out", "the exit".

## Lesson 30 (La Telefonia Senza Fili)

1. **Che permette alle persone**, "which enables (lit. permits to the) people". Note that the verb **permettere** takes an indirect object of the person. (cf. **se mi è permessa l'espressione**, "if I may be allowed the expression". "To allow for", in the sense of "to take into account", is **tenér conto di**: e.g. **tenendo conto della sua inesperienza**, "allowing for his inexperience".
2. **Fra loro**, "with (lit. among) one another", emphasises the reciprocal meaning of **comunicare**.
3. **Dovuta al . . .**, "due to the . . ." **Dovuta**, which is here feminine to agree with **invenzione**, is the past participle of the verb **dovere** used adjectivally.
4. **Da casa sua**, "in your own home". **Da** is used because the idea is that you hear from your home talks, etc., that are not actually given *in* your home.
5. **Conferenze** may mean "conferences" but it more frequently means "lectures" and here "talks". **Ha fatto una conferenza**, "he gave (delivered) a lecture". Note also **ho avuto con loro una lunga conferenza in proposito**, "I have had a long talk (interview) with them on the subject".
6. **Stazioni radiotelefoniche**, "wireless stations". Cf. **ricevitori radiotelefonici** two lines above in which there is no **h** after the **c**. This is according to rule: **-ca** becomes **-che**, but **-co** becomes **-chi** only if the stress falls on the penultimate syllable.
7. **Col tempo**, "in time". The preposition **con** is employed because the idea is "with the passing of time".
8. **Rete**, "main", "system", "net-work". **Rete ferroviaria**, "railway-system"; **rete telegrafica**, "telegraph-system". The same word (**rete**) means "net" or "snare": e.g. **mandai la palla contro la rete**, "I sent the ball into the net (tennis)"; **cadde nella rete**, "he fell into the snare". Also "luggage-rack", as in Lesson 11.
9. **Può sentir parlare in tedesco**, "you can hear German", "you can hear people speaking in German", lit. "you can hear to speak in German". Here is another instance of an infinitive employed in Italian, where a present or past participle would be used in English, after verbs denoting "perception by the senses", such as **sentire**, **vedere**, etc. In this case we might omit the second verb altogether when translating into English. Cf. **l'ho sentito dire**, "I have heard so", with the idea that "somebody told me so".

### Conversation.

10. **Possiede lei?**, "have you?", "do you possess?", comes from the verb **possedere**, "to possess", which is conjugated like **sedere**. Note the **ie** in all the persons of the singular and in the

3rd person plural of the present tenses (indicative and subjunctive). **Possiedo**, "I possess", but **possediamo**, "we possess".

11. **Posso avére quasi tutte le stazioni**, "I can get nearly every station". The verb "to get" is translated in a variety of ways according to the context. Here are a few examples: **ottiene l'impiego**, "he gets the situation"; **procuratemi della carta**, "get me some paper"; **non potéi farlo studiáre**, "I could not get him to study"; **si abitueranno all'idea**, "they will get used to the idea".
12. **È così potente da far funzionáre**, "it is powerful enough to work (operate)", lit. "it is so powerful as to make to work". Cf. **questa mácchina non funziona regolarmente** "this machine doesn't work regularly". The use of **far** in the first sentence denotes that the loud speakers do not function by themselves but that the driving power comes from another source, i.e. from the wireless apparatus.
13. **Alto parlanti**, "loud speakers". The word **alto** originally an adjective meaning "high", "loud", is here used adverbially and is therefore invariable. **Parlanti** (singular **parlante**) is a verbal adjective from the verb **parláre**.
14. **Uso connéttere**, "I usually connect", lit. "I am accustomed to connect" (cf. Lesson 20, No. 19).
15. **Perde di potenza**, "loses power". This is the partitive **di**: "loses some (part) of its power".
16. **Basta**, "it is sufficient", is the 3rd person singular, present tense, of the verb **bastáre**, "to be enough", "to suffice". It is frequently used as an impersonal verb and also as an interjection. **Poco mi basta**, "I am content with little", lit. "little suffices me"; **gli basta di éssere stato ingannato una volta**, "he has been caught once, that's enough"; **basta ! basta !**, "be quiet ! that will do !".
17. **Finchè si trova**, "until one finds". Here the conjunction **finchè** is followed by the indicative, but when it refers to future time it must be followed by the subjunctive: e.g. **aspetta qui finchè io torni**, "wait here until I return".
18. **Passo ora il tempo a méttère**, "I am now spending my time putting". Take note of these instances of the infinitive in Italian to render an English gerund.
19. **Se lei deciderà**, "if you (will) decide". For the use of the future tense after **se** see Lesson 17, No. 26.
20. **Dopo averlo udito**, "after hearing it", lit. "after to have it heard". Apart from the use of the perfect infinitive after **dopo**, the position of the pronoun should be noted. In compound

tenses the object-pronoun precedes the auxiliary, unless the latter is in the infinitive, when the two are joined to form one word.

---

**Irregular verbs found in Lesson 30.**

**Connétre**, "to connect".

Like **discútere**, Lesson 24.

**Esauríre**, "to exhaust".

*Past Participle* : **esaurito** or **esausto**

**Possedére**, "to possess".

Like **sedére**, Lesson 1.

**Trasmétre**, "to transmit".

Like **métre**, Lesson 3.





# Index to Irregular Verbs.

VERB	PAGE	VERB	PAGE
andáre .. ..	26	frángere .. ..	89
appartenére .. ..	118	fríggere .. ..	67
apríre .. ..	19	giúngere .. ..	85
assístere .. ..	81	léggere .. ..	13
avére .. ..	19	méttere .. ..	26
avveníre .. ..	58	muóvere .. ..	98
bére .. ..	67	nascóndere .. ..	32
cadére .. ..	78	offríre .. ..	102
chiédere .. ..	58	ottenére .. ..	85
chiúdere .. ..	126	parére .. ..	32
compiére .. ..	78	perméttere .. ..	58
compréndere .. ..	67	piacére .. ..	32
condúrre .. ..	52	pióvere .. ..	46
connéttere .. ..	131	pórrre .. ..	126
conóscere .. ..	46	possedére .. ..	131
copríre .. ..	32	potére .. ..	39
córrere .. ..	58	préndere .. ..	46
corrispóndere .. ..	75	prodúrre .. ..	81
costríngere .. ..	104	propórre .. ..	123
créscere .. ..	52	provvedére .. ..	102
cuócere .. ..	111	raccógliere .. ..	123
dáre .. ..	26	rádere .. ..	46
decídere .. ..	116	réndere .. ..	81
díre .. ..	19	riconóscere .. ..	113
dirígere .. ..	63	ricopríre .. ..	32
discútere .. ..	116	ridúrre .. ..	102
dispiacére .. ..	58	rimanére .. ..	63
distrárre .. ..	89	riméttere .. ..	98
diveníre .. ..	78	riscuótere .. ..	75
divídere .. ..	78	rispóndere .. ..	20
dovére .. ..	46	rivedére .. ..	20
esauríre .. ..	131	rivólgere .. ..	120
esístere .. ..	118	salíre .. ..	63
espórre .. ..	104	sapére .. ..	58
éssere .. ..	13	scégliere .. ..	105
fáre .. ..	13	sciógliere .. ..	105

VERB			PAGE	VERB			PAGE
scrivere .. ..	..	..	13	tendere .. ..	..	..	108
sedere .. ..	..	..	13	tenere .. ..	..	..	20
soddisfare .. ..	..	..	113	trascrivere .. ..	..	..	113
soffrire .. ..	..	..	98	trasmettere .. ..	..	..	131
sopprimere .. ..	..	..	67	trattenere .. ..	..	..	120
sorridere .. ..	..	..	20	udire .. ..	..	..	71
sospendere .. ..	..	..	32	uscire .. ..	..	..	71
sottintendere .. ..	..	..	118	vedere .. ..	..	..	20
spendere .. ..	..	..	102	venire .. ..	..	..	20
stare .. ..	..	..	13	vivere .. ..	..	..	89
stringere .. ..	..	..	20	volere .. ..	..	..	46

## A P P E N D I X

CONJUGATIONS OF REGULAR VERBS

FORMS OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS



# **Fum-áre,** "to smoke".

*Present Participle\** or *Gerund* : fum-ando

*Present Participle\** or *Verbal Adjective* : fum-ante

*Past Participle* : fum-ato

*Imperative* : fum-a, fum-ate (familiar); fum-i, fúm-ino (polite);  
fum-iamo (1st person plural)

<i>Present Indicative</i>	<i>Imperfect Indicative</i>	<i>Past Definite Indicative</i>
fum-o	fum-avo	fum-ai
fum-i	fum-avi	fum-asti
fum-a	fum-ava	fum-ò
fum-iamo	fum-avamo	fum-ammo
fum-ate	fum-avate	fum-aste
fúm-ano	fum-ávano	fum-árono

## *Future Indicative*

fum-erò  
fum-erai  
fum-erà  
fum-eremo  
fúm-erete  
fum-eranno

## *Conditional*

fum-erei  
fum-eresti  
fum-erebbe  
fum-eremmo  
fum-ereste  
fum-erébbero

## *Present Subjunctive*

fum-i  
fum-i  
fum-i  
fum-iamo  
fum-iate  
fúm-ino

## *Imperfect Subjunctive*

fum-assi  
fum-assi  
fum-asse  
fum-ássimo  
fum-aste  
fum-ássero

\* See "Explanatory Notes", Lesson I, No. 45.

**Cred-ere, "to believe".**

*Present Participle or Gerund* : cred-endo

*Present Participle or Verbal Adjective* : cred-ente

*Past Participle* : cred-uto

*Imperative* : cred-i, cred-ete (familiar) ; cred-a, cred-ano (polite)  
cred-iamo (1st person plural)

*Present  
Indicative*

cred-o  
cred-i  
cred-e  
cred-iamo  
cred-ete  
cred-ono

*Imperfect  
Indicative*

cred-evo  
cred-evi  
cred-eva  
cred-evamo  
cred-evate  
cred-évano

*Past Definite  
Indicative*

cred-ei or -etti  
cred-esti  
cred-è or -ette  
cred-emmo  
cred-este  
cred-érono or -éttero

*Future  
Indicative*

cred-erò  
cred-erai  
cred-erà  
cred-eremo  
cred-erete  
cred-eranno

*Conditional*

cred-erei  
cred-eresti  
cred-erebbe  
cred-eremmo  
cred-ereste  
cred-erébbero

*Present  
Subjunctive*

cred-a  
cred-a  
cred-a  
cred-iamo  
cred-iate  
cred-ano

*Imperfect  
Subjunctive*

cred-essi  
cred-essi  
cred-esse  
cred-éssimo  
cred-este  
cred-éssero

## Dorm-ire, "to sleep".

*Present Participle or Gerund* : dorm-endo

*Present Participle or Verbal Adjective* : dorm-ente

*Past Participle* : dorm-ito

*Imperative* : dorm-i, dorm-ite (familiar); dorm-a, dorm-ano  
(polite); dorm-iamo (1st person plural)

### *Present Indicative*

dorm-o  
dorm-i  
dorm-e  
dorm-iamo  
dorm-ite  
dorm-ono

### *Imperfect Indicative*

dorm-ivo  
dorm-ivi  
dorm-iva  
dorm-ivamo  
dorm-ivate  
dorm-ivano

### *Past Definite Indicative*

dorm-ii  
dorm-isti  
dorm-ì  
dorm-immo  
dorm-iste  
dorm-irono

### *Future Indicative*

dorm-irò  
dorm-irai  
dorm-irà  
dorm-iremo  
dorm-irete  
dorm-iranno

### *Conditional*

dorm-irei  
dorm-iresti  
dorm-irebbe  
dorm-iremmo  
dorm-ireste  
dorm-irebbero

### *Present Subjunctive*

dorm-a  
dorm-a  
dorm-a  
dorm-iamo  
dorm-iate  
dorm-ano

### *Imperfect Subjunctive*

dorm-issi  
dorm-issi  
dorm-isse  
dorm-issimo  
dorm-iste  
dorm-issero

**Fin-ire, " to finish ".**

*Present Participle or Gerund* : fin-endo

*Present Participle or Verbal Adjective* : fin-ente

*Past Participle* : fin-ito

*Imperative* : fin-isci, fin-ite (familiar) ; fin-isca, fin-iscano (polite) ;  
fin-iamo (1st person plural)

*Present  
Indicative*

fin-isco  
fin-isci  
fin-isce  
fin-iamo  
fin-ite  
fin-iscono

*Imperfect  
Indicative*

fin-ivo  
fin-ivi  
fin-iva  
fin-ivamo  
fin-ivate  
fin-ivano

*Past Definite  
Indicative*

fin-ii  
fin-isti  
fin-ì  
fin-immo  
fin-iste  
fin-irono

*Future  
Indicative*

fin-irò  
fin-irai  
fin-irà  
fin-iremo  
fin-irete  
fin-iranno

*Conditional*

fin-irei  
fin-iresti  
fin-irebbe  
fin-iremmo  
fin-ireste  
fin-irebbero

*Present  
Subjunctive*

fin-isca  
fin-isca  
fin-isca  
fin-iamo  
fin-iate  
fin-iscano

*Imperfect  
Subjunctive*

fin-issi  
fin-issi  
fin-isce  
fin-issimo  
fin-iste  
fin-issero



## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

### DISJUNCTIVE :

(a) Used as the subject of a sentence.

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1st pers.	<b>io</b> , I	<b>noi</b> , we
2nd pers.		
Familiar (a)	<b>tu</b> , thou, you	<b>voi</b> , ye, you
(b)	<b>voi</b> , you	<b>voi</b> , you
Polite	<b>lei, ella</b> , you	<b>loro</b> , you
3rd pers.	<b>egli, esso, lui</b> , he	<b>essi, loro</b> , they (m.)
	<b>ella, essa, lei</b> , she	<b>esse, loro</b> , they (f.)

(b) Used after a preposition.

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1st pers.	<b>me</b> , me	<b>noi</b> , us
2nd pers.		
Familiar (a)	<b>te</b> , thee, you	<b>voi</b> , you
(b)	<b>voi</b> , you	<b>voi</b> , you
Polite	<b>lei</b> , you	<b>loro</b> , you
3rd pers.	<b>lui, esso</b> , him	<b>loro, essi</b> , them (m.)
	<b>lei, essa</b> , her	<b>loro, esse</b> , them (f.)

### CONJUNCTIVE :

<i>Direct Object</i>	<i>Indirect Object</i>	<i>Reflexive</i>
<b>mi</b> , me	<b>mi</b> , to me	<b>mi</b> , myself
<b>ti</b> , thee, you	<b>ti</b> , to thee, to you	<b>ti</b> , thyself, yourself
<b>lo</b> , him, it, (you)	<b>gli</b> , to him, to it, (to you)	<b>si</b> , himself, herself, itself, yourself
<b>la</b> , her, it, you	<b>le</b> , to her, to it, to you	
<b>ci</b> , us	<b>ci</b> , to us	<b>ci</b> , ourselves
<b>vi</b> , you	<b>vi</b> , to you	<b>vi</b> , yourself, yourselves
<b>li</b> , them (m.), you }	<b>loro</b> , to them, to you	<b>si</b> , themselves, yourselves
<b>le</b> , them (f.), you }		

## EXAMPLES OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Viene lei con **me**?, “ Are *you* coming with *me* ?”

**Essa** mi dà una mela, “ *She* gives *me* an apple ”.

**Ti** mando un libro, “ I am sending *you* a book ”.

Conosci **te** stesso, “ Know *thyself* ”.

Posso venire con **voi**?, “ May I come with *you* ?”

Siamo molto contenti di vedervi, “ We are very pleased to see *you* ”.

**Essi** ve lo mandano per **noi**, “ *They* are sending *it to you* for *us* ”.

**Ci** vedono ogni giorno, “ *They* see *us* every day ”.

**Gli** abbiamo parlato, “ We have spoken to *him* ”.

**Lo** faccio per **lui**, “ I am doing *it* for *him* ”.

**Egli** viene spesso a vederla, “ *He* often comes to see *her* (or *you*) ”.

Voglio darle dei fiori, “ I want to give *her* (or *you*) some flowers ”.

**Li** mostrerò a mio padre, “ I shall show *them* to my father ”.

Non ci vado con **loro**, “ I am not going there with *them* (or *you*) ”.

Mando **loro** alcuni libri, “ I am sending *them* (or *you*) some books ”.

**Glieli** daremo, “ We shall give *them to him* (or *to her*, or *to you*) ”.

**Si** divertono, “ *They* are amusing *themselves* ” or “ *You* are amusing *yourselves* ”.

**Mi** lavo, “ I wash *myself* ”.

*Published by*

LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE LTD., 209 Regent Street, London, W.1

*Copyright. All rights reserved*

# LINGUAPHONE CONVERSATIONAL COURSES

*for beginners and advanced students are now ready in*

**AFRIKAANS, ARABIC, CHINESE, CZECH, DUTCH,  
ENGLISH, ESPERANTO, FINNISH, FRENCH,  
GERMAN, HEBREW, HINDUSTANI, IRISH,  
ITALIAN, NORWEGIAN, PERSIAN, POLISH,  
PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN, SPANISH, SWEDISH.**

Each Course consists of interesting conversational and descriptive lessons supplied with all the necessary text books in an attractive carrying-case.

## LINGUAPHONE TRAVEL COURSES

**in ENGLISH, FRENCH and ITALIAN.**

Each Course consists of 30 interesting and instructive talks contained on 15 double-sided 10-inch records. They take you for a tour through Great Britain, France or Italy accompanied by a guide who describes to you, clearly and interestingly, the principal objects of interest in each place visited, and talks to you about the Art, Music, History, Geography, etc., of his country. Supplied complete with text-book in an attractive carrying-case.

## LINGUAPHONE LITERARY COURSES

*are available in*

**ENGLISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN, SPANISH  
and GERMAN.**

Each Course consists of specially selected extracts, in prose and poetry, from the works of the most famous writers in each language, recorded on double-sided 12-inch records. Each set complete with text book in an attractive carrying-case. There is also a Literary Course in Esperanto—consisting of 5 double-sided 12-inch records supplied with text in an attractive Album

For further particulars, write to :

**LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE, LTD.  
207-209 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.1.  
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK.**



Earl

PC  
1121

Explanatory notes on the Italian  
conversational course.

.E37-

